DUDLEY

How beads and beer turned pub into a pearl of a business

- see page 3



Anger over mum's late-night lock-in at Merry Hill centre

- see page 4



Salsa gran shimmies into the record books in her latest triumph

- see page 12





"This is such a worthy cause and I know that so much effort has been put into winning the top prize, which will make a huge dif-ference to so many people's lives."

HESE are the smiles that say a big, heartfelt thank you to the thousands of TV voters who helped a Stourbridge hospice get lottery funding.

Mary Stevens Hospice hospice, of Hagley Road, was selected to receive a £30,886 cash boost from the Big Lottery fund – beating more than 300 applicants to the prize in the People's Millions competition

prize in the Feople's Nimion's competition.

After going head to head with Wigwam Weekends from Derbyshire, the hospice was announced as winner last Wednesday, live on Central News.

The money will be used to develop the hospice garden and create a new sensory area.

Staff and volunteers are due to meet with landscape experts to discuss the "Spaces" project and hope to see the esnsory garden up and running by next summer.

Improvements will be made over the entire garden making it easier for patients to access. The existing patio garden will be levelled off and raised

Hospice's big thank you to TV voters for £30,800 Lottery win

flower beds built to ensure all users can

flower beds built to ensure all users can get the best benefits from plantings. There will also be a quiet seating area on the lawn for patients to spend private moments with loved-ones.

The People's Millions is a partnership between the Big Lottery Fund and ITV, where the public decides which local community projects gets up to £50,000 of Lottery funding.

Jackie Kelly, director of nursing, said: "This has been absolutely terrific. We have been really overwhelmed by the amount of support that we have received and we want to get across to everyone about how grateful we are. "We want to get the garden under way as soon as possible as we really feel that this addition to the hospice will create a wonderful space for patients, enhancing their quality of life.

Thank you to everyone who has supported us in this appeal and everyone

By Sarah Hazelwood

Dudleychrons@expressandstar.co.uk

who picked up the phone and voted.

who picked up the phone and voted. This will really make such a wonderful difference for our patients.

Gillian Nash, an MS patient who visits the hospice day centre every week, said: "I know family and friends all voted for Mary Stevens. I encouraged as many as I could to pick up the phone and make the effort to vote.

Support

"Visiting the hospice is the highlight of my week and a chance to do normal things like having a drink and a meal with friends, getting my nails done, having my hair fixed or getting some massage therapy—all things which at times can be difficult to make happen. "Simple achievements have come to

mean such a lot and Mary Stevens certainly helps make them happen.

"The staff are truly wonderful and kind and nothing is ever too much trouble. They are always there for me and others. I am so pleased they have the funding and I cannot begin to say just how grateful I am to all those viewers who made it possible."

Mrs Nash, of The Knoll, Kingswin-ford, who started attending the hospice three years ago after her condition deteriorated, added: "The garden project will make the lovely grounds even better."

The Hospice is also committed to helping those who have lost loved-ones to ensure they too receive the support they need.

Joy Myers, of Stourbridge, whose husband was cared for by the hospice during his fight with cancer, has praised the dedicated team. She said:

"I think the work that they do is so important and they helped me and my husband Mike no end.
"When Mike passed away a few months ago the staff made so much effort to ensure that I had as much support as I needed, they are always there for me whenever I need them.
"Although the people that use the hospice are very ill, the place is such a happy environment it really puts patients and their families at ease.
"I am so pleased that they have won this money, a sensory garden will be so beneficial to the patients.
"I wish them all the best with their project because they truly deserve it.
"I can't thank the staff enough for what they did for my husband, and

what they did for my husband and what they have done for me and my family ever since."

The £2m challenge

THE hospice needs to raise over £2 million each year through its fundraising activities and is dependent upon the support of the community. To find out more about fundraising at the hospice, call Janet Jones, fundraising manager, on 01384 377778.



Drivers pulled over by fake traffic cop



A WANNABE police officer fitted blue flashing lights to his Ford Focus and pulled drivers over on West Midlands roads after failing to land a job on the force, a court heard.

on West Midlands roads after failing to land a job on the force, a court heard.

Daniel Bunce faces a jail sentence after a judge told him that impersonating a policeman was "very serious". The 20-year-old from Tipton bought the lights after his application to get a legitimate job in the police was turned down. He was also spotted using them to beat jams, Warley Magistrates heard last week.

Peter Love, prosecuting, said it was a bizarre case. Bunce, a jobless security guard, bought the Focus in January and had the lights fitted to the roof. On September 1, he sped up alongside Andrew Garmston, who was riding his three-wheeled motrobike in Jervoise Lane, West Bromwich, and pulled him over.

Bunce gave Mr Garmston a ticking off for not wearing a helmet before reassuring him he was not going to fine him this time.

Mr Love said Joseph Richards, a friend of Mr Garmston who had been riding alongside him on a quad bike, recognised Bunce from school. He said, "you're not a police officer", but Bunce responded that he was from Wednesbury traffic division and drovo off.

Southbound

Southbound

The friends called police, who matched the incident with a report of a Focus using a flashing light in traffic jams on the southbound M5 at Worcester on April 30. In interview, Bunce, of Beech Crescent, said he had pulled people over a number of times. He admitted one charge of impersonating a special constable or a member of a police force.

Gerard Brady, defending, said: "There is immense regret. He has always wanted to be a policeman. He applied for the job but did not get it."

Mr Brady said Bunce previously had a part-time traffic management job which meant he could use orange flashing lights — but not blue ones. "He was immature and regrets his actions."

District Judge Graham Wilkinson said he had not ruled out custody for Bunce

The case was adjourned for reports and Bunce is due

The case was adjourned for reports and Bunce is due to appear in court again on January 4.

Vehicle breakdown | Asbestos appeal by police make £1.3m

UP TO £1.3 million has poured into West Mid-lands Police coffers in two years from recovery companies tipped off by officers about broken

officers about broken down vehicles.

The force called contractors to tow away more than 50,000 vehicles in 2008 and 2009. It often receives a referral fee of £25.

Recovery firms pay the force a "management fee" in return for notification of vehicles that need to be picked up from the scenes of accidents or breakdowns.

West Midlands Police insisted the charge was not applied in every case – but declined to say how many payments were made or how much money the referrals had generated.

Pressure

Pressure
Potential receipts from the management fee were £723,800 in 2008 and £622,275 in 2009.
Force spokeswoman Pav Shergill said: "The management fee is currently £25.
"West Midlands Police referred 28,952 vehicles in 2008 and 24,891 in 2009.

attract the management fee, which is currently £25."

The figures released under the Freedom of Information Act also showed that the Met in London received no fees.

Paul Watters, head of raul watters, head of roads policy for the AA, said police forces agreed con-tracts with recovery firms to ensure the speedy removal of stricken vehicles.

He said: "The police have to clear roads quickly and are under pressure to do so from motorists."

tragic wife's family

THE husband of a Brier-ley Hill pensioner who died from asbestos-related cancer has appealed for information to help his fight for com-

to help his fight for com-pensation.

Pamela Siviter had mesothelioma, which can be caused by exposure to asbestos. Now her family hope that ex-workmates can provide vital informa-tion in their legal battle for compensation.

compensation.

They are trying to track down if and when Mrs Siviter was exposed to

asbestos. She worked for British Telecom for 16 years. and from 1976-82 was a switchboard operator at a telephone exchange in Horseley Heath, Tipton.

Solicitors

Solicituds
She was later transferred to the West Bromwich exchange, in High Street, until 1992. The building is now a Premier Inn.
When Mrs Siviter died in 2008 she left her husband of 44 years, Arthur, as well as two children and three grandchildren.

Mr Siviter said: "Pamela

and lived for her children and grandchildren. She passed away after a short illness and the whole family

were completely in shock "No inquest or post mortem was carried out.

mortem was carried out.

"However, we requested that some of Pamela's tissue samples were investigated further and discovered that her death was in keeping with mesothelioma."

Ronan Hynes, at solicitors Irwin Mitchell, can be contacted at ronanhynes@irwinmitchell.com or 0870 1500 100





Golfers find fair way to keep their club thriving

GOLFERS at one of Britain's top clubs took a trip down memory lane to celebrate its 75th anniversary. Officials dug out photographs charting Enville Golf Club's bistowy

charting Enville Golf Club's history.

Nearly 200 golfers gathered to help mark the anniversary with a tournament at its course near Stourbridge.

Author Graham Rowley also compiled a booklet called Enville Golf Club: No Common Group featuring documents including scoreards, letters and postcards from the past.

The club was founded in October 1935 by 11 players. It now has about 900 members – and a waiting list.

The Professional Golf Association ranks it among the top 200 in the country. It has two courses – Lodge and the original Highgate, and hosts an Open Championship qualifier. qualifier.

There are hopes of a new green for the 11th hole of Lodge course in 2011, and improvements have been made to the 11th and 15th holes on the Highgate course.



A scorecard cover for the 1951 Staffordshire Open

associated with the club for so many years – there is really good camaraderie among members," Mr De Freitas said.

Enville Golf Club was set up in October 1935 by players from the Churchill & Blakedown and Stourbridge clubs who wanted a full 18-hole course. Sir John Grey agreed to lease Enville Common for a course, and some of the early

holes were designed on 1936 Open Champion Alf Padgham's advice. The club unveiled its 18-hole course in May 1938 after recogni-tion by the English Golf Union.

The 39th Battalion Home Guard was formed to protect Enville in World War Two

In World War Two the 39th Bat-talion Enville Home Guard used it for training. John Henry Edwards, son of founder member SJ Edwards, died after shrapnel piered his stomach on an exercise.

His son, Brian, has been a member for more than 50 years. In 1968 Ron Hinton was appointed club professional with wife Joyce as stewardess. The club also moved into a new clubhouse – formerly Morfe farmhouse.

Son Paul became club assistant professional and his brother Philip was Staffordshire Amateur and Open Champion in 1972.

Santa's safari with reindeer

FAMILIES can go on a sleigh ride with a difference this Christmas – surrounded by lions, giraffes and elephants.

Santa and his seven reindeer will be making four-mile trips around West Midland Safari Park, at Bewdley, throughout December.

The park has a herd of

The park has a herd of reindeer that spend the summer months in the

Now in its sixth year, the Santa Safari event covers

Leanne's

the whole safari park trail up until Christmas Eve. It also takes in the Dis-covery Trail which includes Seal Island, the Twilight Cave, Creepy Crawlies, the Seaquarium and the Sealion Show.

Sealion Show.
Adult admission is £10.95, children £13.95 and £6.95 babies under 12 months old.
West Midland Safari Park is opens only at weekends until February 13, 2011, but will be open daily for the Santa Safari.

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Designs for new sign are needed

ARTISTS and designers are being invited to put

are being invited to put their stamp on Lye.

The Lye and Wollescote Regeneration Partnership is looking for a design to go on a new welcome sign for on a new welcome sign for the town.

The sign is being installed

The sign is being installed as part of a refurbishment scheme to transform a shrub bed on the corner of High Street, Connops Way and Chapel Street into a paved and grassed area with seating.

People are now being invited to put forward a design, to sit underneath the words Welcome to The Lye, Part of the Black Country, which reflects the town's heritage.

Executive

Deputy council leader Councillor Les Jones, cabinet member for economic regeneration, said: "There is a great sense of community in Lye, with traders and residents working together to improve the town.

"This new refurbished area, with its bespoke sign will provide a lovely welcome to the town for vis-

will provide a lovely welcome to the town for vis-itors and help attract further investment into this

part of the borough. "This is a fantastic opportunity for an artist or designer to put their mark on the town by having their design welcoming people to

The winning design will be chosen by the partner-ship's executive committee. Once made up into the sign it will be 95cm wide by 60cm high. Entries can be sent to Councillor Adrian Turner by January 18.

Variety night will boost trust funds

A NIGHT of song, dance and comedy is being held to raise cash for a Black Country charity.

Proceeds from the variety show at Brierley Hill Civic Hall on Thursday, January 27, will go to the Geoff Hill Charitable Trust which gives grants to groups and charities.

Comic Lee Wilson, magician John Milner and the popular songtress Maggie O'Hara are among those taking part.

O hara are among those taking part.
Tickets at £8 to £10 are available from 01384 812812 or online at dudley.gov.uk or from 01384 443311.



Bead pub a rare pearl

A BEAD shop launched in a Black Country pub has proved so successful the landlord has given it a glittering new name – The Pearl Girl.

- The Pearl Girl.

Businessman Ray Crawford says he wanted to give his Tipton pub, The Comedian, in New Road, Tipton, a more appropriate moniker after his jewellery enterprise took off.

jewellery enterprise took off.
The business started off as
an internet venture four years
ago and Mr Crawford, aged 63,
who runs the pub with his wife
Stephanie, claims it is the first
licensed bead shop in the
British Isles.
The father of son Darcy, 20
and daughter Cassidy, 17, was
introduced to the business
through his brother who runs a
successful company in Aus-

tralia. Mr Crawford now visits China regularly to buy new beads and eye up the latest trends.

"It has turned into now is a destination pub and people are turning up from all over England. It has been turned into a girlie pub.

Shelves

"There's plenty of blokey pubs, but there's never really been a girlle bar and you can sit there and have a coffee and have an alcoholic drink. "It think all pubs have to do something different."

something different."
As well as changes to the pub signs, Mr Crawford's stock of thousands of beads are housed on shelves inside the pub and customers can relax with a

drink or something to eat as they mull over purchases.

Mr Crawford added: "It's like walking into a shop you've never been to in your life "It's the kind of bead shop that no bloke has ever complained about going to because they can watch the big screen and their partner can shop to their heart's content."

Mr Crawford believes the pub's popularity has spread

pub's popularity has spread due to word of mouth and customers from London and as far afield as Scunthorpe have also popped in.

popped in.

Beads can be bought online
at www.thepearlgirl.co. uk,
and the pub also holds jewellery making classes every
Monday between 6pm and

PENSIONER

Impact of false alarms growing

THE number of false alarms triggered by automatic systems in the West Midlands

the West Midlands has soared over the past year.
Firefighters have been sent out to 1,741 false alarms in homes and sheltered housing since April, 100 more than expected. The most significant increases have been in Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall.

It puts extra pressure on West Midlands Fire Service as it faces up to £30 million cuts.
The fire service has an annual budget of £411,000 for smoke alarms in 2010-11 and has so far spent £188,000 of that.

auarms in 2010-11 and has so far spent £188,000 of that.

In a report to the West Midlands Fire Authority, chief fire officer Vij Randeniya said: "Ownership of smoke alarms in private dwellings has increased significantly due to the large number of home safety checks completed by the service and this may have resulted in an increase in calls."

Further evaluation is ongoing into this of smoke alarms that have reached their end of life and support is being offered to sheltered schemes to reduce the number of false alarms

Arson is also up in the latest figures, with 204 incidents in homes so far compared with a target of 187. There has been a 3.6 per cent increase in inci-dents compared with last

Limelight awaits a child star

YOUNGSTERS have a chance to star in the pan-tomime Dick Whitting-ton at the Birmingham

ton at the Birmingham Hippodrome.
The theatre has donated a prize of a walk-on part for one child for this year's Christmas Auction by The Big Give.

The winner, aged six to 10, will appear in costume alongside stars including Joan Collins, Julian Clary and Nigel

A backstage tour private buffet and goody bags will be thrown in.

Anyone interested in bidding can visit www. thebiggive.org.uk/auc tion before Sunday.

School splashes out on £138,000 swim revamp

A SWIMMING pool at a Stourbridge school is to have a £188,000 revamp so it can be used by up to 2,000 people a year, including pupils and the wider community.

The pool at Gig Mill Primary is cur-rently only open for three months per

year, just for pupils.

Dudley Council wants to upgrade the pool and open it up to community groups and sports clubs. It would also be available

BOSSES of a Cradley Heath firm that is slash-ing 37 jobs at a branch in Manchester under restructuring plans have promised that there will be no job losses closer to home

home.
Westley Group, a foundry
in Doulton Road, will shed
37 posts out of 160 at
Mather's Foundry, in
Newton Heath, Manches-

ter, to focus on higher margin work. argin work. The decision will lead to

the group increasing its profitability while turnover decreases, meaning it does not need such a large work-

But bosses said last week that the pinch would not be felt at its Cradley Heath foundry, nor at the JT Price

site which the group owns in Stoke-on-Trent. Rob Salisbury, Westley's group commercial director,

foundry closes

said: "We have identified there are approximately 37 people at risk of redundancy in Manchester, but that will

have no bearing on the rest of the Westley Group.

"The decision to focus on higher margin work will reduce our turnover from £13 million to around £11m,

but it will increase our prof-itability.

"It means we will be melting less and producing less, and we have to do that with fewer people."

Matchstick

the redevelopment of the pool was a priority and hope it can be used by up to 2,000 people each year. Early bird sessions would be offered for parents along with activities for families, facilities for water sports and hydrother-aby.

Excellent

ently only open for three months per rear, just for pupils.

Dudley Council wants to upgrade the sool and open it up to community groups and sports clubs. It would also be available or pool parties.

School governors and managers said the \$\frac{\text{ECHENT}}{\text{COUD}}\$ The school, which also plans to offer exercise and antenatal classes, hopes to increase use of the pool over the next three years from 400 to 2,000 people.

Funding for the scheme includes a \$\frac{\text{E70,000}}{\text{grant}}\$ from the best man and and a \$\frac{\text{E70,000}}{\text{grant}}\$ grant from the lbstock Cory Environmental Trust.

Jobs pledge as

E/0,000 grant from the libstock Cory Environmental Trust.

The rest of the cash for the project has come from school and council funds.

Work at the school in The Broadway, Norton, will include installing a new, better-insulated enclosure for the pool so that it can open for longer.

Council leader Councillor Anne Millward says: "A redeveloped swimming pool will be an excellent resource to the school, other local schools, the local community and local groups from swimming clubs, children's centres and older people's clubs."

Diabetes help

A FREE course offering advice for Dudley people with diabetes is now being run in Punjabi and Urdu.
Organisers say people from south Asian communities are six times more likely to develop diabetes.
If the condition is not managed correctly, it can lead to complications such as kidney failure, blindness and heart disease. Courses run on Tuesdays at 10.30am The Manchester foundry was known as Mather & Platt's when it was bought by Westley Group in 2008.

It was immortalised by artist LS Lowry in a street scene complete with a "matchstick men" workforce. The foundry supplies steel to oil, gas, nuclear and other industries. run on Tuesdays at 10.30am at King's House, King Street, Dudley

Yobs could have killed grandad



and cement narrowly missed his head. Mr Shepherd, a retired Round Oak steelworker, says he is baffled why vandals have targeted his home in Brierley Hill. "I couldn't move for a minute or two because of the shock. There was glass all over the place," he said. Police are investigating the attack at about 4.30pm on Friday, November 19, while his son, Richard, was Patrols Richard said: "The neighbour said the sound of the window smashing was like a shot from a gun. "The lump weighed about a stone and a half and could have killed him. It smashed through both layers of double glazing. "Whoever was responsible must have come through the gate into the front garden and hurled it with considerable force. Richard, a warehouse worker, aged 48, said police had assured his father they had stepped up patrols in the area near Brettell Lane. Witnesses are asked to

Harry Shepherd outside his damaged home in Brierley Hill after it was targeted by missile-hurling yobs

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CHOICE WINDOWS

thechronicle

limbo

as talks

founder

TALKS over the future of a derelict office block near Dudley town centre have broken down, sparking fears it could remain empty for years to come.

It was honed that

Homes prices plummet 10pc

HOUSE prices in the West Midlands have tumbled by more than a tenth in three years as the cost of renting soars, new figures show.

It is now cheaper to buy a house than rent across much of

Properties in Dudley fell eight per cent, or £11,332 on average.

average.

The average value of a detached house in Wolver-hampton has slumped by £34,614 since 2007, while property prices have dropped 13.1 per cent. Sandwell saw the biggest slump with values tum-

Fines top

1,000 on

roads at

hospital

MORE than 1,030 fines have been issued to drivers parking illegally on roads near a Dudley-hospital during the past

Hall Hospital are regularly clogged with cars as people struggle to find a spot at the car park, prompting complaints from residents living near the site. Figures show that 1,034 tickets were issued between October 1, 2009, and October 31, 2010, raising thousands of pounds for Dudley Council.

There were 962 fines given to people parked along Pensnett High Street, 65 in Bushey Fields Road and seven on the A4101 Pensnett Road.

Living

The council says the "vast majority" of the £50 and £70 fines are paid within 14 days, meaning a reduced figure is paid.

A£6 million staff car park with 691 spaces is currently being built at the rear of the hospital. Hospital bosses hope the new multi-storey will help to ease the congestion on roads and free up space for patients and visitors.

tors.
. Council spokesman Phil

Council spokesman Phil Parker said: "Penalty Charge Notices are issued to vehicles that appear to be parking in contravention of the council's traffic regulation orders. Any ticket may be challenged by the motorist if they believe it was incorrectly issued." Staff living within a mile of Russells Hall Hospital will not be allowed to use the new multi-storey.

Living

bling by more than 16 per cent—more than £21,500.

In Walsall, where prices is down 6.5 per cent in three years, it is now a third cheaper to pay a mortgage than rent.

Accepting

Accepting
Figures published by LSL
Property Services show the
average cost of renting has
risen 0.4 per cent to £691 – a 4.5
per cent rise since October 2009.
Estate agents across the West
Midlands report that home
owners are accepting up to 10
per cent less than their original
asking prices in a bid to speed
up chains.

Twin prize delight for students' landlord

A CRADLEY Heath landlord has won a pair of awards in a national competition.

Andy Burton was mamed National Student /House in Multiple Occupation Landlord of the Year and West Midlands Landlord of the Year at the Landlord and Lettings Awards.

Mr Burton has been director and co-owner of Orbit Bearings and Transmission Ltd, in Cradley Heath, for the past 20 years.

Courts' guards confiscate Hotel in knives - then return them

CRIME suspects tried to take more than 1,000 knives into courts in the Black Country and Staffordshire in the last two years – but many are posted back to the reference for the state of t to them for free after confisca-

tion.

The blades were seized by contracted security staff who man metal detectors and use hand-held scanners to sweep defendants and visitors for weapons as they enter court buildings.

Security records disclosed by the Ministry of Justice show that 234 knives were taken into Wolverhampton Magistrates Court and 217 at Wolverhampton Crown Court – the

lands.

A further 218 blades were confiscated at the two courts in Walsall, while 192 were taken in Stafford and 151 in Dudley.

Connecting Magistrates', Court

Cannock Magistrates' Court guards seized 64 blades and 22 were confiscated in West Bromwich.

Convicted

CONVICTED

Illegal knives more than three inches long are retained by security staff and handed over to police.

But the Ministry of Justice admitted it posts smaller, legal knives back to their owners free of charge if they complete a short written application, regardless of whether the person car-

offence.
Sharps like Stanley knives can legally be carried, but are prohibited

legally be carried, but are proninited at court.

The records also show that alcohol had to be confiscated 955 times.

Mark Kram, spokesman for the Ministry of Justice, said: "Whether they get the items back depends on if they are legal. If it's tools, cameras, recording equipment, or alcohol they are handed back.

"Firearms and knives longer than three inches are retained and police are contacted. Knives under three inches are given back on application. The data covers September 2008 to September this year.

It was hoped that Cavendish House could be transformed into a hotel with 150 bedrooms But discussions with a But discussions with a number of hotel chains have ended, leaving the owners Abstract still shelling out about £250,000 a year on its upkeep, insurance and security costs.

Companies are reluctant to invest while the

tant to invest while the economy and jobs market is uncertain, according to associate lirector Muhammad director Hassan.

Concerned

"There's nothing con-crete happening at this stage, but we are being very pro-active trying to drum up interest in the

"It is difficult though

"It is difficult though because the economy has taken a real hit in the last couple of years."
Dudley Council does not want the site to be used for a supermarket, as they are concerned customers could be drawn away from the main town centre. main town centre.

One idea could see each wing in the L-shaped building conv-erted into a 60 or erted into a 6 90-bedroom hotel.

Praise for merger

THE Black Country's four councils have received praise in Parliament for their efforts to cut costs by seeking to

cut costs by seeking to merge services.

The Cabinets of Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton met for the first time last week to discuss sharing services.

sharing services.

Library services are already in line to be merged under the cost-cutting drive.

Other services which may he shared include emergency planning, health and IT.

Stouthvides MP.

Stourbridge MP Margot James high-lighted the region's efforts in the Commons, paying tribute to the councils involved.

Anger over late lock-in at car park

A MOTHER was stunned to find her car locked in at Merry Hill late at night – just as she was due to collect

night – just as she was due to collect her 14-year-old son from a youth club. Michelle Price-Hunt says three other vehicles were also locked in when their owners returned to the car park at Best Buy electrical store at 9.50pm to find the barriers down.

The Merry Hill Centre is open until 10pm, but Best Buy closes at 8pm and shuts its car park 30 minutes later.

Mrs Price-Hunt, a childminder, complained that there was no sign on the car park to indicate the opening hours.

A Best Buy spokesman said that infor-

A Best Buy spokesman said that information was included alongside the

opening hours at the entry and exit of the store, but managers are now planning to introduce additional signs for the car park. Mrs Price-Hunt, aged 46, of Thompson Close, Dudley Wood, said: 'I was in a panic because I was due to collect my son Adam from youth club in Netherton.

Worrying

"Three other people also found their cars shut in. One car was small enough to negotiate around the barrier but the other two drivers crunched the bottom of their vehicles on the stones in the grass at the side and I didn't want to risk it.
"My son walked home from the club with

and I didn't want to risk it.
"My son walked home from the club with
a friend, which is worrying so late at night,
and I walked home with all my shopping

£345,000 food block scheme

A FOOD technology block is to be built at a Stourbridge boarding school under develop-ment plans. It follows the opening of

It follows the opening of three new teaching and res-idential buildings including a sports centre costing £10.5 million at Old Swin-ford Hospital School. Head Peter Jones hopes work on the £345,000 new block will start at Easter if planning permission is granted by Dudley Council. From September 2011,

food technology is to be a compulsory part of the Key Stage 3 curriculum.

Mr Jones said the build-ing will help meet the statu-tory requirement and help young people develop knowledge and understand-ing of food technology.

The new block will provide facilities for 22 pupils with 11 cookers, six sinks, a large fridge, white board and projector wall.

The three teaching and residential buildings opened last month.

bags."
The Best Buy spokesman said: "On Fridays our store closes at 8pm and our car park closes 30 minutes later, allowing ample time for customs to leave. This information of the control of the same store that the same store is the same store that the same store is the same store that the same store is the same store is same store in the same stor tomers to leave. This information is displayed alongside our opening hours on entry and exit from the

on entry and exit from the store.
"We are sorry to hear that Ms Price-Hunt feels she has cause for complaint and we will be happy to contact her to offer a small gesture of goodwill as a thankyou for showning with we

goodwill as a thankyou for shopping with us.
"If our customers have any queries we would advise that they contact our customer relations team on 0333 717 7177 and they will be happy to help. In the meantime, we are introducing additional signage to our Merry Hill car park."



Michelle Price-Hunt's vehicle was locked into a car park at the Merry Hill Centre

Pass the parcel in record bid

DUDLEY has been chosen to take part in a Guinness World Record for the largest ever pass the parcel game.

A giant parcel the size of a Again parcet the size of a small car will make its way through Dudley in Decem-ber, as part of a tour of 10 towns or cities across the UK. The other locations involved in the attempt are Aberaeron, Edinburgh, Aberaeron, Edinburgh, Kendal, Leeds, Littlehamp-ton, Liverpool, Manchester and Reading.

and Keading.

The parcel will contain thousands of pounds worth of toys, which will be given away over the course of Woolies' World Record Breaking Pass the Parcel Christmas Adventure.

Small gifts will also be given to the first 100 people who go along and the lucky town which peels off the last layer of the parcel is promised a "celebrity surprise". The date the parcel will be in Dudley has not yet been revealed.

To follow the tour visit www.facebook.com/wool worthsuk.



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Children in harmony for top choir contest

sure they are note-perfect ahead of Merry Hill's annual Christmas choir competition which starts this month.

this month.
This year will see the tenth
Christmas choir contest
hosted by the Brierley Hill
shopping centre, which aims
to celebrate the musical
talents of children.
The event will see young
songsters battle it out in
front of live audiences.
For 2010, almost 50
schools have signed up to

take part for the two-week enterprise. The choirs, made up of pupils aged seven to 11, will compete in four cate-gories including best choir, best performance, best costume and best newcomer.

gories including best choir, best performance, best costume and best newcomer. Choirs will be judged on the quality of performance, originality, enthusiasm and enjoyment factor by an X-factor style panel of judges and the four winning schools each win £1,000.

To mark the tenth anniversure are the schools will write and the four winning schools each win £1,000.

sary, each choir will raise funds for Mary Stevens Hospice, Stourbridge.

motorists leave cars to defrost

manager at Merry Hill, said:
"We always get such talented children competing and ometimes it's hard to believe how young they are."
Heats started on November to the quality of performance, riginality, enthusiasm and mijoyment factor by an X-factor style panel of judges and the four winning schools each win £1,000.
To mark the tenth anniversary, each choir will raise tunds for Mary Stevens dospice, Stourbridge.

Kelly Reed, marketing TWO cars left unattended with their engines running while they defrosted have been stolen from outside homes in Dudley.

A Honda CRV was taken from the driveway of a house in Lauriston Close, Upper Gornal, at 6.35am last Monday, and less then an hour later, a Mercedes C220 was taken from the drive of a house on Longmeadow

caken from the drive of a house on Longmeadow Drive, off the Northway. Police have now stepped up patrols in the area.

Thefts as

Councils hit back on Facebook and tweet

COUNCILS have defended spending thousands of pounds on official websites and social media like Facebook

sites and social media like Facebook and Twitter.

Some authorities have run up huge bills setting up vast internet operations, while others in the West Midlands have moved online for a fraction of the price. Development costs range from £235,000 to as little as £5,000 across local authorities.

Dudley Council's website cost £99,182 to set up in 2013 and it sends up to £90,005 as the in 2013 and its means up to £90,005 as the in 2013 and its means up to £90,005 as the in 2013 and its means up to £90,005 as the in 2013 and its means up to £90,005 as the internet in the control of the c

set up in 2005 and it spends up to £20,095 a year on updating it. Five people update the

social networks.

Some district councils in Staffordshire have just one person updating their Facebook and Twitter feeds as part of their day-to-day roles while others, like Walsall, have

rers, on the case.

Walsall's Councillor Mike Flower said.

Walsall's Councillor Mike Flower said.

Social media is important. We don't have anyone who spends all day updating Twitter but we have a large number who have access to the accounts and can engage with our communities."

Information

Experts say the average cost of a web transaction at 28p, compared to £6.56 for face-to-face contact and £3.22 for a phone

nace-to-face contact and \$3,22 for a phone transaction. Wolverhampton City Council spent £235,000 on a website in 2001 but said there were no annual costs. Sandwell Council has spent £33,600 on a new website it has been working on since April.

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Chris Feehan 01902 313131 ex 3213

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Anglers' pool is for pupils

A POOL which is proving a good catch with Black Country fishermen may become a conserva

tion area for school visits.
The pool at Heathfield
Lane, Darlaston, was
closed by Walsall Council

closed by Walsall Council
after becoming a magnet
for fly-tippers and yobs.
But anglers and residents have taken over
care of the pool and say
the Heathfield Lane
Fishing Club is going
from strength to
strength. Council chiefs
called in the Environment Agency to further
boost the pool's potential.

Cannabis growing father in court

annabis plants at home has been ordered to do 300 hours' unpaid work

Alexander Littlewood, aged 30, of Park Road, Netherton, admitted cultivating the drug at a previ-

vating the drug at a previ-ous hearing.

Dudley magistrates also
placed Littlewood under
supervision for 18 months to
help him break his £150-aweek addiction to the drug.

The drugs and cultivation

equipment were ordered to be destroyed.. Maxine Jarrousse, prose-

cuting, said police officers in Park Road noticed a strong smell of cannabis coming from Littlewood's home.

Partner

Heavy condensation was forming on an upstairs window, indicating the room was very damp and humid, she added.

"Littlewood showed them upstairs, where they found hydroponics equipment and 38 cannabis plants.

"In interview, he told police he was heavily addicted to the drug, to the extent of £150-a-week," she added.

Jahangeer Aslam, de-

extent of £150-a-week," she added.
Jahangeer Aslam, de fending, said Littlewood shared his home with his partner and child, and was remorseful.
'It was only when the police arrived at his house he fully realised how serious the situation was," he said.
"He accepts he has a problem with cannabis. He has been smoking it since around the age of 14 or 15."
Littlewood had stopped smoking the drug and was seeking help to break his addiction, Mr Aslam added.

Shabby subway closes for bus station facelift

A STOURBRIDGE subway branded "grimy and shabby" is to be closed for a major facelift next month as part of a £7 million revamp of the town's bus

£7 million revamp of the towns ous station.

The main underpass leading from the bus station, in Foster Street East, to the High Street, is to be sealed off in stages so it can remain in use for as long as possible, Dudley Council said today.

Work is due to begin on the subway, used by thousands of people every week, on December 21 with the section running directly beneath Foster Street East sealed.

Merry Perry starts festivities

CRADLEY Heath's Christmas lights have been turned on by Dudley Heathens rider of the year Tom Perry. Tom was joined at the event in High Street by team manager Will Pottinger, with the switch flicked on last week. They described the experience as a "real honour for the club". Children from Corngreaves Primary School sang carols, prior to the big switch-on.Councillor Ann Shackleton, member for Cradley Hill and Old Hill, said despite the rain the evnt went well.

Pub bulldozed

by developers

derelict Cradley pub described as a "carbuncle on the landscape" are celebrating after bulldozers moved in to

atter bulldozers moved in to flatten the building.

Demolition of the former Smiths Arms will pave the way for nine new homes.

Work to knock down the former pub, on the converse

former pub, on the corner of Meres Road and Compton

Meres road and Compton Grove, began last week. Neighbourss complained the site was attracting van-dalism and other anti-social behaviour after the pub

directly from the bus station to High Street to stay open until the main refurbishment scheme gets under way in January. Dudley Council said the work on the subway, being carried out by Centro under

plans to create a new interchange, would not begin until work on a pathway running next to St John's Church was completed.

Pathway

When the subway is closed, the main route to the town rail station and Foster Street East from High Street for pedestrians will be over the traffic lights on Hagley Road. They will then be able to take a shortcut along the pathway to reach the train steams manager Will stops set up in Birmingham Road and Parkfield Road. The subway is to be closed

The subway is to be closed for months for the improvements to be carried out.

Scouts clear plans hurdle

PLANS for a group of scouts to move to a partly con-structed industrial building in Lye have been supported by Dudley Council's development control committee closed more than two years ago, and the Enterprise brewery later erected fencing to protect it.

Councillor Ken Turner said: "Everybody in the area will be pleased. At one time it was a part of the community here but, after it closed, it became a carbuncle on the landscape and a target for anti-social behaviour."

Martin Ward Develop-

against the recommenda-tion of officers.

Members said they were in favour of Stambermill St Mark's scouts taking over the unfinished site in

the untilished site in Timmis Road.

But they deferred giving approval so that officers can investigate cancelling a standard planning agreement where developers or applicants have to pay towards community developments.

Martin Ward Develop-ments, of Bewdley, obtained opments.
Once this has been agreed permission for work to begin will be given through the committee chairman. planning permission from Dudley Council to build homes on the site.

Veterans share their memories



Year 5 pupils from Tipton Green Primary School, from left, iagan Shinder, Maurice Reid, and Jordan Cook, all aged nine, meeting with, back, from left Winston Churchill, Mrs Fox, eteran Joe Simms, Winnie the welder, and Captain Mainwar-ing, with veterans Len Whitehouse, and George Heritage

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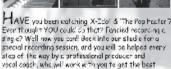
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Firewalk helps out hospice

HOT-FOOTED fundraisers walked across burning embers to raise cash for Walsall

Hospice.

A total of 22 people took part in the firewalk event at Sporting Khalsa's football ground, in Noose Lane, Willenhall.

Noose Lane, Willenhall.

The event was expected to raise more than £2,000 for the hospice, which is being built in Goscote Lane, and cash is still being collected.

Trudy Pratt, a partner of Waldrons Solicitors in Dudley, said: "Not many people can say they've walked on fire. To be offered the opportunity to do it and raise money for a worthy cause was too good an opportunity to miss."

Fundraiser for Walsall Hospice Jo Ellis said: "The whole event was very lively with everyone cheering on the firewalkers and drummers adding to the atmosphere." Call 01922 423578 for fundraising information.

'Judgment day' over 200-boat marina plan



The proposed marina is close to Hinksford Caravan Park, seen in red

CONTROVERSIAL plans to flood part of the South Staffordshire green belt to create a 200-boat marina have been recommended for approval by

been recommended for approval by council officers.

Plans for the complex near Swindon prompted objections from more than 200 residents, but are now just one step from full approval after winning the backing of South Staffordshire Council's planning officers.

Villagers fear the marina will hit local independent traders and leave the small

winagers real the manner of th

Swindon, has been co-coordinating objections on behalf of various groups, including Swindon Civic Society, Marina Action Alliance and the Marina Action Group.

Alliance and the Marina Action Group.
The 50-year-old, who owns a car repair garage in Wombourne, said a final decision represented "judgment day" for the village of Swindon.
"It would effectively be the end of the village," he said.
"There would be 1,000 people coming and going continuously, not to mention tumes from the boats," he added.
An Environment Agency report requested by campaigners also revealed that the proposed marina is so large it is covered by the Reservoirs Act.
Original proposals for a 252-boat marina were scaled down earlier this year.
Revised plans were submitted for 226 narrowboats before the latest plans for 199 boats. A visitor centre on the site has also boats. A visitor centre on the site has also been scaled down. South Staffordshire Council's regulatory committee were due to meet on Tuesday evening tofvote on the

Revenge attacks are admitted

A YOUNG father who smashed a building's window and a car windscreen in separate revenge attacks in Lye has been given a curfew.

James Taplin, aged 24, threw a brick through glass at Gibbs Road House homeless hostel, causing £150 of damage, after an resident allegedly bullied his sister.

Weeks later he used a pole to cause £1,150 of damage to a BMW parked on a driveway

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Healthy hub car park hit by cash shortage

Bumble centre buzzing again

A BLACK Country nature reserve devas-tated by an arson attack staged an emotional relaunch after its visitor centre was restored.

Pupils, heartbroken when Bumble Hole Nature Reserve visitor centre, Netherton, wa

visitor centre, Netherton, was attacked in May, cut the ribbon to reopen the building. Repairs cost a total of \$25,000. Most of it was paid for by insurance but \$2,000 came from Dudley Council to make the roof more secure by removing skylights which were, in the past, were, in the past, smashed in break-ins.

Pupils at Hill-crest, Sledmere and Northfield Road Schools also raised £2,000 to

replace smoke-damaged items inside the centre. After the arson attack 60 pupils at Sledmere Primary School wrote to the Express & Star saying heartbroken they were about the damage to the centre.



A CASH-STRAPPED Black Country council has no money available to build a controversial car park at one of

its new "healthy hub" sites.

More than 70 people objected to plans for a 16-space car park for visitors to Huntingtree Park, off Thornhill Road, Hale-

It would be used by people visiting a new

It would be used by people visiting a new outdoor gym at the park.

It has been designated as one of five "healthy hubs" set up by Dudley Council in a bid to encourage residents to exercise.

But Dudley Council, which would be responsible for the ear park, does not have the £50,000 available to pay for it to be built.

Angry

Angry

Instead, funds must come from Section 106 cash, which developers shell out as part of planning permissions for other projects.

Rupert Dugdale, the council's head of economic regeneration delivery, said: "There is currently no money available for the project.

"Our thinking is that it can only be funded when there is enough money from Section 106 payments available for us to use."

use."
Residents say the cash should be used on other parts of the community, as they claim the car park will attract anti-social behaviour an gangs.
Jane Beard, a member of the Friends of Huntingtree Park, said: "We are so angry about this."

Carol service invite from borough mayor

PEOPLE are being invited to celebrate the festive season with the Mayor of Dudley at a traditional Christmas carol service.

Dudley Council has organised the annual carol service on December 9.

Mayor, Councillor Peter Miller, will be at the service at St Mary's Church, Kingswinford, at 7.30pm. Councillor Miller said: "What a wonderful way to celebrate the festive season. I hope people will join me for a few Christmas carols."





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More delays over college scheme

Pals' peak of success



Celebrating after their charity bike ride are, front left to right, sponsor David Hollis, of the British Mini Club, Gavin Lloyd and Pete Morgan with, back left to right, Matt Handley, Kelvin West-wood, Stuart Mander, and Matt Darby

wood, Stuart Mander, and Matt Darby
TEN friends from the Black
Country battled fog, high wind
and freezing temperatures to
reach the top of Mount Snowdon
on their bikes - raising £7,000 for
a cancer charity.

Gavin Lloyd, aged 31, of
Bromley Lane, Kingswinford,
to buy a mountain bike for the
to buy a mountain buy a mountain buy a mountain bike for the
to buy a mountain buy a mountain buy a mountain b

Bromley Lane, Kingswinford, organised the challenge after being inspired by his mother Glynis's battle with cancer.
The group reached the 3,560ft summit in less than three hours in severe weather conditions. Mr

none of the group were experienced cyclists and some even had to buy a mountain bike for the ride. Mr Lloyd, who has a six-year-old son called William, said: "It was such a brilliant feeling

"It was such a brilliant feeling when we reached the top. We had achieved what we set out to do and it felt fantastic."

Outdoor taps are targeted by yobs MULTI-MILLION pound METAL thieves have

college expansion dependent resorted to stealing on the demolition of a historic garden taps in a bid to 19th century building has raise cash, police in been delayed for a second the Black Country

the Black Country fear.

There have been a string of thefts from three homes in Olive Hill Road and New John Street, Halesowen.

Officers are still investigating the crimes but believe they could have been stolen to sell for scrap. It is the latest in a rash of metal thefts in the area. Copper piping, catalytic converters and tools have been targeted. Communications manager for West Midlands Police in Dudley, Catherine Hickman, said officers in Halesowen received reports that a small number of homes had taps stolen from the outside of their property.

Motive time.

Dudley College plans to knock
down Kudos House, on the corner
of Priory and Ednam Roads, to
make way for a £30 million university-style campus.

But a decision is being made on
whether the historic site should
be given listed status — which
would protect it from the bulldozer. Dudley Council's development Outley Councils development control committee had hoped a final decision would have been made by the Secretary of State for culture, media and sport in time for their meeting.

Motive

Heritage

But last week they were told the issue was still being decided, leaving them with no choice but to defer the plan for a second time. Council officers told the committee they were expecting a response within the next 10 days. English Heritage has called for the house to be saved along with other groups, including the Ancient Monuments Society, The Victorian Society and Save Britain's Heritage.

The plans, which have been recommended for refusal by council officers, were first put on hold in October.

Between 10pm and 11pm on Friday, November 19, three homes were targeted, in Olive Hill Road and New John Street. The taps were taken off the wall and the incidents are currently being investigated as theft.

The motive for the thefts is not clear at this stage, it may be sheer devilment by the offender, or they may have been stolen for the purpose of selling for scrap, however the value is not expected to be great for such items."

Sergeant Martin Hall warned residents to be on and monitor his Twitter page for updates.

DUDLY Zoo education presenter Kellie Piper was talking about rare and endangered animals to pupils at Russells Hall Primary School in Dudley last week. She also met a few of the school's own wild creatures in the shape of hand puppets made by Year 4 students.

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evelopers ıbmit plan landmark mansior



PLANS for a new housing develop-ment that will bring a landmark Black Country mansion house back into use have been submitted to council chiefs

Developers are set to convert the Grade II-listed Corngreaves Hall in Cradley Heath into nine apartments and construct a new block of six houses adjacent to the hall within the grounds

A planning application for the scheme has now been submitted by Corngreaves Hall Ltd which is the freehold owner of the Corngreaves Road site. The historic house dates back to 1780 and has been empty

since the 1970s. Since then it has been plundered by metal thieves and targeted by vandals and arsonists who have caused hundreds of thousands of pounds worth of

hundreds of thousands of pounus word damage.

Permission to turn the hall into housing had already been granted by Sandwell Council in 2006, but no work ever started and in August 2010 Corngreaves Hall Ltd bought the property with the objective of restoring and developing it.

A design and access statement submitted to the council which has been prepared by Worcester-based Nick Joyce Architects LLP, says: "The condition of the hall today

is very poor: externally the shell remains largely intact, but the condition of the ashlar facings is poor and the stucco window surrounds need repair.

window surrounds need repair.

"The roof has been stripped of its leadwork, and with large areas of missing tiles,
has resulted in years of water damage."

The report adds the proposed scheme
would see the existing hall converted into

nine apartments - four on the ground floor, three on the first floor and two on the second floor, while the new block would contain six terrace-style two and three

Action call to end misery of rat run

calling for action to end a year of misery caused by drivers using a rat run to avoid road-

works. People living in Oakham Road say the street is clogged with cars during the morning and evening rush hours since work began at Burnt Tree island.

They say the increase in traffic is putting lives at risk and has left

many residents afraid to cross the road. A "speed visor", which flashes the number 30 when it detects a car is breaking the limit, has been erected. But residents say it has had no effect as drivers simply ignore it. They want speed cameras, road humps or chicanes to be installed but Dudley Council has said it will not be considered until the 2011-12 financial year.

Resident Sheila Jones, aged 62,

FIN5A

said: "The road is either so busy it's dangerous to cross or the cars are speeding so fast you take your life in your hands."

The £12.3million scheme to turn Burnt Tree island into a junction with traffic lights began in August 2009 and is expected to finish next summer.

Sandwell Council cabinet member council or Rab Bedham

Sandwell Council cabinet member Councillor Bob Badham aid engineers were looking into he problem.

Salvation

Army in gift appeal

THE Salvation Army in Cradley Heath is calling for Christmas present donations for underpriv-

donations for underprivileged children.

The charity is launching an appeal for people to drop off new, unwrapped gifts at its Meredith Street base or at nearby Superdrug stores in Merry Hill, Blackheath, Brierley Hill Halesuwen Dudley Hill, Halesowen, Dudley and Stourbridge. Volunteers will give them out to children and families.

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the chronicle

Salsa gran shimmies to record

international stardom and a Guinness World Record under her belt. it has been a whirlwind year for the Black Country's very own Country's very salsa-dancing granny.

Since entering the Spanish version of Britain's Got Talent, called Tu Si Que

Spanish version of Britain's Got Talent, called Tu Si Que Vales, last year. 76-year-old Sarah "Paddy" Jones has been hitting the high spots around the globe.

She was personally invited to dance at New York's Copacabana club, wowed crowds at the Colosseum in Rome and won the hearts of the South American public on Showmatch, Argentina's version of Strictly Come Dancing, writes Charlotte Cross.

Who would have guessed that, not only was Paddy once the owner of a market stall in Stourbridge, but that she was booted out for breaking the rules one too many times?

Paddy had run fabric stalls at markets across the Black Country for more than 30 years when, in January 1989, she was locked out of the Crown Centre market as bosses took exception to her leaving her stall unattended.

She had asked a neighbour of the contract of the run are well as the part of the product of the trown centre market as bosses took exception to her leaving her stall unattended.

She had asked a neighbour stall was the stall was the stall was the part of the part o

unattended.
She had asked a neighbouring stallholder to keep an eye on hers while she took staff out for a Christmas meal. UK Markets chairman Mr Philip Clarke said at the time that Mrs Jones had been warned 60

times about opening late or closing early, and abandoning the stall was the "last straw".

"I can't remember now why it was that the manager objected so strongly, but he kicked me out and that's when I opened my shop in Coventry Street," she said.

"I worked there for a while, then moved to a shop in Victoria Passage where I was until we closed to move to Spain."

Their move, in 2001, was delayed when husband David was diagnosed with leukaemia. After nine months of treatment at Russells Hall Hospital, he was well enough to go, and they enjoyed a few happy months there before the disease returned. He died in March 2003.

Flamenco

Flamenco

I never even really considered coming back to the UK," said Paddy, who returned home to Gandia, Spain, last week after a fleeting visit to see her four children and seven grandchildren.

"My family are here but they're happy for me to be living there as I'm so much safer, and of course they get to visit."

She started dancing shortly after David's death as a way to keep occupied, and when she couldn't find a flamenco class decided to try out salsa.

That is when she met Nicko Espinosa, who is 40 years her junior but immediately spotted Paddy's potential and recruited her to try a version of salsa acrobatics. Paddy and Nicko were crowned winners of a





round of Tu Si Que Vales—or If when they were halted by a You Are Worth It in English—earning a place in the "final of finals" in December last year.

The athletic pensioner areached the final eight out of 20 acts, just missing out on the 100,000 euro top prize which went to a little dog who performed various tricks including tucking himself into bed.

What they didn't know at the

What they didn't know at the time was that Tu Si Que Vales had also been aired on South American TV, earning them a huge following and they were invited to star in Showmatch.

The pair were voted off the show in October, while Paddy was at home in Spain for a family visit.

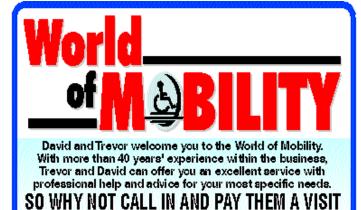
History

time was that Tu Si Que Vales had also been aired on South American TV, earning them a huge following and they were invited to star in Showmatch.

"I told them I would only do it I could come home every acmule of months to visit my family, and they agreed," she said.

"I was treated like a star everywhere I went people everywhere I went people asking for autographs and having their picture taken with us, and we got so many gifts."

On one occasion, she and Nicko were walking out of a shop it's just incredible," she said.





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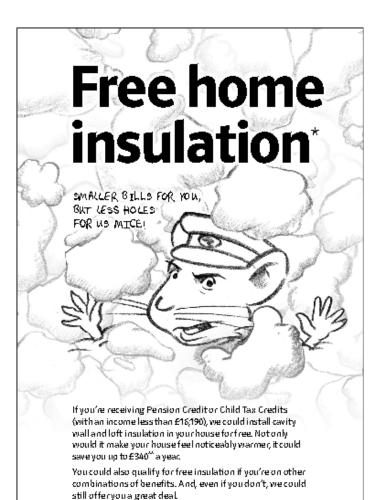
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thechronicle

School is finally getting the facility it so richly deserves

AST week I visited Ellowes Hall to help mark the start of work on the school's new

sports centre.

The staff at Ellowes Hall do a great job and have consistently driven standards

Results have doubled in just a few years Results have doubled in just a rew years but imagine how much more they could do with first class facilities that matched their hard work and commitment. I have always thought it a scandal that a specialist sports college should have to work in an old and out-dated gym.

work in an old and out-dated gym.
In fact, I can remember playing basket-ball for my school against Ellowes Hall in the gym they are using today.
That was almost 30 years ago — and it was by no means new then.

was by no means new then.

It is my job to stand up and fight for local schools and get them the investment and equipment they need.

Tve worked hard to support headteacher Andy Griffiths and the school get the new facilities they need, backing their campaign to raise £1.5 million to replace the outdated sports hall and helping secure £700,000 of extra government funds to



North Labour MP takes the stand in our weekly which gives our repre-sentatives the chance to air their views on issues that matter to Country

help pay for the project. The council have chipped in too and the community is now finally going to get the new facilities they've been waiting for so long to see. Last week I also published figures from

that show around 1,000 pregnant women a year in Dudley will lose support as the coalition axe the Health in Pregnancy

grant.

I was shocked to find that an estimated

I was shocked to find that an estimated 1,000 pregnant woman in Dudley will lose the one-off tax free payment of £190 every year of this Government.

The payment is not means tested and does not depend on National Insurance estributions and account in research that the contract of the contributions, and as a result is received by all parents to help prepare for the birth of

their baby.

The Labour Government introduced the

The Labour Government introduced the grant in April 2009 in recognition of the additional costs involved in pregnancy and the preparation of birth.

This is yet another example of the Governments deep and indiscriminate cuts hitting families the hardest.

As all parents and parents-to-be know preparing for your child's arrival is a stressful and financially challenging time. What this cut does is take away £190 from local couples who are already in a very difficult period in their lives.

Fantastic

We all know that David Cameron and George Osborne live in a different world to us, where money isn't a consideration when starting a family but to many fami-lies in Dudley this is going to be a major

ow. Finally, last Friday night I had the great privilege to attend the annual meeting of the Turls Hill and Swanbrook Valley Resi-

the Turls Hill and Swanbrook Valley Residents' Association.

Listening to how a hardworking and committed group of residents have managed to bring in thousands of pounds of extra cash to improve pathways, put in new gates and signs, protect wildlife and involve local people in the maintenance of such a beautiful area of open space was absolutely fantastic. absolutely fantastic.

People talk about the big society or com-

reopie talk about the big society or community action, but here in Dudley, these slogans are really being put into practise by Harry Brookes, David Bates, George Morran, Don Davies and their team of committee members and volunteers.

My congratulations and best wishes to them all.

Excited fans and snow as festive lights go on

SANTA, reindeer and even a sprinkling of snow set the scene as the Christmas lights were switched on in

Christmas lights were switched on in Dudley.
Hundreds of people turned out for the annual event in freezing temperatures on Saturday night to enjoy the event, which also featured funfair rides, street theatre and live music in the town centre. Manchester boyband Reconnected, who found fame on Britain's Got Talent, were on hand for the switch-on alongside Dudley Mayor Peter Miller.
They performed a half-hour set, much to the delight of scores of screaming teenage girls who had turned out to see

them, travelling from around the country. Fans Demi Fields and Naomi Wenlock,

both aged 13, from Wolverhampton were there with their friends Starr Sams, aged 12 and Lucy Goode, aged 11 from Weymouth just to see the singers.

Turnout

Armed with posters to attract the band's attention the friends managed to get a spot at the front of the barriers. Starr said: "We are all huge fans."

The mayor added: "Everyone seemed to be very festive and I thought there was a good turnout despite the temperature."

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thechronicle

Rush for swine flu jab in first blast of winter

More space for ancient glass

GALLERIES at a Kings-winford glass museum have more space to show off artefacts dating back to the 17th century

Broadfield exhibition

repainted. Some new cabinets have also been fitted, so there is now more space to display some pieces of

The Modern Glass room has been re artefacts are now set out in a timeline from the 17th century

Jeanette Tranter, a assistant, said: "The olace really needed deco-rating and we eel the exhi oitions have oeen greatly



Museum assistant Jeanette Tranter, left, and museum visitor Ella Lane admire the newly-redecorated galleries at Broadfield House

MORE than 34,000 people have already been vaccinated against swine flu as part of a seasonal programme in Dudley.

gramme in Dudley.

Pensioners, pregnant women and atrisk groups are able to receive the vaccine to protect themselves.

The annual flu jab this year contains protection vaccine against the pandemic H1N1 virus, which struck the UK last year. The hope is that by combining the swine flu vaccine with the normal flu jab it will guard against a return of the virus, following dire warnings last winter.

Last year an outbreak claimed more than 450 lives and cost the UK £1.2 billion.

Complications

Complications

Eligible patients include the over-65s, health workers, carers and those with chronic conditions such as heart disease, lung disease, diabetes, and lowered immune systems. Dudley Primary Care Trust is aiming to vaccinate up to 88,359 people across the borough.

Dudley GP Dr Steve Cartwright said: "Common colds are frequently confused with flu, but flu can be potentially life-threatening, and can sometimes require weeks of recovery time.
"Those at greater risk of developing serious complications from flu should get to their local surgery as soon as possible."

to their local surgery as soon as possible." Mr Cartwright said anyone who thinks

they, or someone they care for, is eligible for a free seasonal flu jab should contact their GP practice for advice.

Points top-up mum gets 12-month ban

A STOURBRIDGE mother of four has been banned from the roads for a year after she was caught driving to a car boot sale

she was caught driving to a car boot sale without insurance.

Emma Carpenter, aged 36, of Rugby Road, admitted the offence when she appeared before Wolverhampton magistrates. Her Vauxhall Astra was stopped by police at 5am on September 5.

Carpenter was fined £225 with six penalty points. These, added to six points from a previous conviction for the same offence, triggered a 12-month ban.

New lifeline bus service is replacing axed route

A NEW bus service has been launched following complaints that people faced long walks or extra journeys after a route was axed from part of Halesowen.

route was axed from part of Halesowen. The 231 will operate hourly on Mondays to Saturdays from Halesowen bus station. It will go to Halesowen Street, Blackheath, serving Hurst Green, Olive Lane estate and Rowley Regis station, starting from Sunday. It is being operated by National Express West Midlands under subsidy from Centro, the passenger transport authority for the West Midlands. They stepped in after changes to the 230 route operated by Diamond resulted in parts of the Olive Lane estate and Hurst Green having no service.

having no service.

The route will cover the areas no longer served by the 230 and will provide Woodbury Road with a new service after it lost its bus some time ago.

some time ago.

The service also provides a new link between Halesowen and Rowley Regis railway station and extra links from Blackheath to Rowley Regis station.

Lifeline

Centro chiefs say they are currently working with Dudley Council to identify suitable locations for bus stops in Woodbury Road and Merrivale Road.

suitable locations for bus stops in Woodbury Road and Merrivale Road.

In the meantime, the service will operate as a hail and ride bus on those roads. From Halesowen bus station the route includes Halesowen Road, Narrow Lane, Merrivale Road, Somerfield Avenue, Olive Lane, Rowley Regis Station and Halesowen Street in Blackbeath.

Councillor Lesley Faulkner, ward member for Halesowen North on Dudley Council, was one of those who campaigned for the service to be introduced.

She said: "This service will provide a valuable lifeline to people such as the elderly and parents with small children who need to get to Halesowen town centre and Blackheath."

parents with small children who need to get to Halesowen town centre and Blackheath." The 231 will run hourly at the opposite half hour to the Diamond 230. On weekdays, buses towards Halesowen will serve Olive Lane estate from 7.42am to 5.42pm, and on Saturdays from 8.42am to 5.42pm, and on Saturdays from 8.42am to 5.42pm. The first weekday bus from Halesowen arrives at the estate at 7.25am and the last at 5.25pm.



Andrew Lunn of National Express schedules, councillors Lesley Faulkner and aren Shakespeare and Babs Coombes, Black Country area manager for Centr

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GARDENING thechronicle

Keep patio pots safe from frost

MOVE your patio plants around so that you can enjoy more easily the structure of perma-nent plants such as conifers, camellias and

Ifelfit platitis such as conners, can emission and trees.

Pots that sit directly on paving slabs are more likely to suffer from poor drainage and frosts are more easily transferred from paving to make a frozen rootball. To improve drainage, lift pots off the ground, elevating the pot with decorative terracotta feet. If you have pots topped off with winter pansies and violas, these need pride of place as their happy faces continue to bloom.

After the wet weather of autumn, walls and paving in shaded areas may be showing green growth of moulds and algae. Now it's possible to scrub these growths off with soapy water and plenty of elbow grease, or simply use one application of Patio Magic which does a better job killing the growth and gives long-lasting effects.

Benefit

Some winter flowering shrubs will be coming into bloom as we head for the end of the year and will be on display at your local nursery or garden centre. Suitable for growing long term in pots are both Witch Hazel (Hamamelis) with spidery yellow or gold flowers that are highly perfumed and Sweet box (Sarcococca) with tiny white flowers that are equally septed.

box (Sarcococca) will any will be seen the capually scented. Invest in these sort of potted shrubs and your patio or front door will benefit from great beauty and fascinating scents.

TOPICAL TIP
Move tender potted plants close to a south or west facing wall and wrap fig trees in fleece to give protection from the harshest frosts.



Suitable for growing long term in pots are Sweet Box (Sarcococca) with tiny white scented flowers





Don't let fallen leaves smother your plants

SHORT, dull days leading up to the end of the year can be blessed with some bright weather.

Gardeners take every opportunity on dry days to tidy up the garden and make headway in digging over bare soil and improving its structure.

DECORATIVE BEDS AND BORDERS Collect fallen leaves that gather betwee rose bushes, shrubs and trees and espe-Collect failen leaves that gather between rose bushes, shrubs and trees and especially those that are trying to smother low growing plants, such as aubretia, lewisia, sedum, thyme and violets. If autumn leaves are left on these plants for any length of time you can be sure that slugs and snails will ruin their foliage. Instead of leaving these leaves where they fall, collect them up and store in empty compost bags for a year or more and you will have some very valuable leaf mould that can be dug into soil in future years to improve structure and feed millions of soil bacteria and beneficial insects. Finish the planting of tulips in your flower

border with some of the dwarf species such as Stresa (a red and yellow water-l type) or West Point (a rich yellow lily-flov

ered type).

To protect the emerging leaves of tulips while they are still below ground it will pay to water the patch where these tulips are planted with a liquid slug killer such as SlugClear. When diluted in water in a watering it can be used to soak the soil where it kills all molluscs that are hiding

below the surface.
Continue to cut back herbaceous plants such as Michaelmas daisies (Aster), cone flowers (Rudbeckia and Echinacea) and phlox as they die back. Compost all the plant material other than foliage that has been badly affected by mildew and dig around the roots, ensuring labels are still in

place.
Winter is a good time to cut down unwanted trees and sapling as there is less potential to damage the rest of the flower garden. To ensure the stump doesn't spring back into life next spring it's always recommended to treat the cut surface of

the stump as soon as possible after felling. There's no need to drill any holes – simply paint the cut surface and remaining bark thoroughly with a 10 per cent solution of Roundup Tree Stump and Rootkiller and the lob's d

the job's done.
It's time to give some protection to marginal plants that may struggle to survive bad winter weather. As many gardeners found in 2010's winter, marginal plants such as penstemons, bottle brush bush (Callistemon) and young ceanothus do not easily survive really cold spells when frosts are persistent and hard. To give extra pro-tection to the roots of these plants add a 10-15cm (4-6in) mulch layer of any left-over compost from this year or fresh bags of Miracle-Gro Soil Improver.

TOPICAL TIP

fore painting fence panels it's a good idea to get rid any green mould and algae with a special treatment such as Deck & Fence Magic. Just one spray will give you visible results in 2 to 4 days and prevent re-growth for many months.



Callistemon (bottle brush bush) needs extra protection from the frost

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CREATIVE WRITING

Mon. 17th Jan. 19.00-21.00, 5 wks. 925, 10 0 Mon. 28th Fab. 19.00-21.00, 5 wks. 925, 10 0

PLAY THE GUITAR

Intermediates: Mon 10th Jan 19:00-21:00, 12 wks. 980:25 & Impovers: Tues 11th Jan 19:00-21:00, 12 wks. 980:25 & Beginners: Thurs 20th Jan 19:00-20:00, 10 wks. 934:40 & Thurs 20th Jan 20,00-21,00, 10 wks. 934,40 # Beginners:

AFRICAN DRUMMING

Tues 25th Jan.19.00-20.00, 4 wks, £21.00 # Impiovers: Tues 1st Mar. 19.00-21.00, 6 wks. £30.15

JEWELLERY MAKING

Mon 31 at Jan. 19.00-21.00 OR Tues 1at Feb. 10.00-12.00, OR Tues 1at Mar. 10.00-12.00,

All 3 webs \$21.00 # Impiovers: Tues 29th Mar. 10.00-12.00, 3 wks 921.00 #

INTRO TO SIGN LANGUAGE Mon. 28th Feb 19.00-21.00, 0 wks £21.00 €

DRAWING for BEGINNERS Mon 31st Jan 14.00-16.00.3 wks.£21.00 €

WATERCOLOURS for BEGINNERS Moin 21 at May 14,00-16,00, 0 wks, 921,00 #

PAINTING and DRAWING

Tues 11th Jan. 19,00:21,00, 12 wks, 9,60,25 6 Wed 12th Jan 10,00-12,00, 12 wks, 9,60,25 6 Thurs 13th Jan 10,00-12,00, 12 wks, 9,75,00 6 Thurs 10th Jan 10:00-15:00, 12 wks. £80:25 #

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PAEDIATRIC EMERGENCY FIRST AID

Fri 11th Feb OR Sat. 26th Mar. 09.00-10.00, 1 session, £24.00

RLSS NATIONAL POOL LIFEGUARD

Mon 21st Feb. OR Mon 11th April 8:30-17:00. 8 days. £170 plus £78.25

RLSS NATIONAL RESCUE TEST FOR SWIMMING TEACHERS/COACHES Thurs & FriSth and 6th May 9:00-16:00 £56.50 add fees £22.95

INTRO to AQUA FIT: Workout in water, New students only. Thurs 10th Jan 18,00-19,00 OR Thurs 0rd Mar 18,00-19,00 6 wks. £21,00 #

ADULTS LET'S SWIM LESSONS SPECIAL PRICE Tues 11th Jan 19.05-20.05. Or Tues 14 Mar. 19.05-20.05. 6 wks. Min. age 19 yrs. MUST be a non or weak swimmer or

beginner. Limited to I source per student (since Sept 09) £10.00 ADULT SWIMMING LESSONS

Intermediates://lon 10th Jan 19,45-20,00, 12 wks. £05,55 # Imgrovers: 200 n 10th Jan 20:00-21.15, 12 wks. £05.55 € Imgrovers: Tues 11th Jan 20:05-20.50, 12 wks. £05.55 € Beginners: Thurs 10th Jan 20:15-21.00, 12 wks. £05.55 €

PRIVATE SWIMMING LESSONS

In a group of 2 or 1 to 1. Contact the office for further details

BALLROOM and LATIN AMERICAN DANCING

Mon 10th Jan 18:00-19:45, 12 wks. £57:60 & Mon 10th Jan 19:50-21:05, 12 wks. £57:60 &

LEGS. BUMS and TUMS

Tues 11th Jan 20.05-21.05, 12 wks £34.45

PILATES

Beginners: Tues 11th Jan 19:00-20:00, 12 wks. £34:45 Beginners: Wed 12th Jan 18:00-19:00, 12 wks. \$34.45 & Beginners: Thurs 13th Jan 18:00-19:00, 12 wks. \$34.45 & Imgrovers: Thurs 13th Jan 19:05-20:05, 12 wks. \$34.45 & Improvers: Thurs 19th Jan. 20.10-21.10, 12 wks. £04.45 Beginners@ Oalfield, Fri 14th Jan 10.00-11.00, 12 wks. £46.10 €

YOGA Wed 12th Jan 19,15-20,45, 8 wks,£38,75 Wed 2nd Mar. 19.15-20.45, 8 wks. £36.75

CREATE YOUR OWN WEBSITE Wed 2nd Feb 9.30-

11.00 OR Mon 28th Feb 19.00-21.00, 8 wks £42.80 #

COMPUTING for the TERRIFIED

Thurs 10th Feb 19:00-21:00 OR Fri 21& Jan 11:00-10:00, OR Fri 18th Mar. 11.00-10.00, All 4 wks, £09.00 #

INTRO TO FAMILY HISTORY Mon 10th Jan 12:30-14:30 5 wks. £35:40 #

CONTINUING FAMILY HISTORY

Mon 28th Feb 12:30-14:30 5 wks. £35:40 €

CONT. PHOTO SHOP IMAGING USING PHOTO-SHOP ELEMENTS

Mon 10th Jan 10:00-12:00 5 wks. £48:70 #

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Interme date 2.

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Cinarges: £10 legistration fee per term (12 wks) plus £12 pentificate fee No reductional No hidden extrast

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Mon 28th Feb Beginners 16.45-17.45,6 vits, £51.60 Improvers 17.45—18.45, 6 v/ks.£25.80

Learn new skills, have fur and overcome shallenges. Who, age 8 years, Must be able to swim20 mon a front stroke and 20 mon a back stroke.

Saturdaya 11,30-12,30 begins 8th Jan 13wks £59,65

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Thurs 6th Jan -Sun 16th Agril no plasses 21st Feb-27th Feb 201

12-10 wks £51.05.£55.00 £55.40.£59.65

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nd s blisto develop floatato n and propriis on without alds in to 2m.

Min age 4 1/2 years, Provides skill development to svim Sman a front strate and Smillach oravit.

Immarance: improves aquatio skills and stamina to swim 15m on all out stoke and 15m hack occur.

Internedate 1.

Developes on affidence in deep water and front grawlinest hing action to swim 20 meters on a front stable

and 20 m hack ownl.

Vin age 10 years. Shist he ali le to swim 20 mon a force droke and 20 mon a happy droke. Bevelops water safety principles and performance of shirtlest lateral sufficiency in 1,2 and 3 and Bronze Stellan Assards Life saving.

Helps to huld stamina and endurance to swim 50 m on a front state te and 25m on hisch occur.

Intermediate & Develops completence on all four strokes (ρ 5m) and a fight and hapk stroke for 100 m.

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Places MUST he hooked in advance Fri 11th Feb E.B. Thurs 17th Feb Fac E Bay Fa**ns** book 11.00-10.00 12.00-14.00 Digital Photography, 12:30-14:00 Thurs 7th April

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	F11.	15.15-16.00	€2.60
AQ UAFIT	Wed	12,30-13,10	€2.60
	Wed	19.00-20.00	£3.70
	F11.	12.40-13.25	€2.60
	Sun	18.00-19.00	£3.70
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thechronicle

Hopes high for adventure zip wire in valley

A ZIP wire costing hundreds of thousands of pounds is set to erected at a Black Country beauty spot - the first in the

region. Sandwell Council wants to install the Sandwell Council wants to instant un-30ft high adventure equipment at Salters Lane nature reserve, in Sandwell Valley, and is now set to go out to tender. Keith Heyes, head of cultural services, said: "The council is about to go out to tender on the

project which is expected to cost hundreds of thousands of pounds."
"We are inviting people to come in and develop that. It will fund itself because it will generate a significant amount of

The zip wire would emulate the success of the Go Ape tree adventure facility on Cannock Chase, which welcomed its two-millionth customer this year.

Worker's death costs company just £1,500

Shiver me timbers in playground

CHILDREN at a school in Rowley Regis are en new play equipment.

new play equipment.

A wooden pirate ship has been installed in the play-ground of Springfield Primary School.

The red ship HMS Springfield, which cost

Springfield, which cost £6,000, is in the playground for pupils aged between five and seven. It is 15ft long and features wobbly bridges for the chil dren to go across plus a wooden flag.

Headteacher Sue Powis said: "As a school we have a

programme to improve our outside provision for the children." She added that the pirate ship was improving the children's physical development, role play and imagination.

play and ment, rote primagination.

"The knock-on effect is there are less behaviour incidents because they have something to focus their attention on, she said.

"We are now looking to improve our two other playgrounds," she added.

The Dulley Road school's next fundraiser will be a Christmas fair on December 3. between 6p and 8pm.



Pirate pupil Bethany Beddall, left, with Bradley Biddulph-Perrin, Gurdeep Johal, Millie Winwood, Lewis Sibley, Caitlin Amos Cameron Tromans and Tiegan Hawthorne

A METAL works has been fined just £1,500 for health and safety breaches after a Dudley worker was crushed to death.

There were gasps from the family of David Hunt, who were in the public gallery at Wolverhampton Crown Court, as the penalty was read out.

Mr Hunt, aged 49, of Park Road, Lower Gornal, died in January 2008 after a beam landed on him at Arkinstall Galvanizing Ltd, in Dudley Road West, Tividale.

Judge Michael Dudley said he was unable to impose more than a nominal fine as Ark Brothers, which succeeded Arkinstall later in 2008, was now a dormant company. In September 2008, the directors of Arkinstall Galvanizing had changed the name to Ark Brothers Ltd. They sold off the original trading name and assets – before setting up a new firm under the Arkinstall Galvanizing Ltd name.

Inspections

Inspections

Inspections

Ark Brothers Ltd was charged with breaching its duty of care to employees at work and contravening health and safety regulations. Bosses pleaded guilty to both charges.

James Puzey, prosecuting, said that hooks that lifted the bar had become loose. Monthly inspections by an external company had repeatedly raised the issue, but nothing was done. A log book showed accidents had occurred before.

Bernard Thorogood, defending, said the company had sent workers for health and safety training, but admitted: "They should have learned from previous accidents."

The firm was also told to pay £37,500 costs, which will be met by its insurers.

Team daring to bare with Heroes charity calendar



Dudley Council workers, based at the Lister Road Depot, seen from left, Pat Barrows, Stephen Davies, Richard Green, and Anthony 'tattoo Tony' Davies



Stores operative Pat Barrows seen striking a pose



Road worker Scott Colley shows off his body art



Steve Bradley shoulders the load for the calendar

THEY may not be the traditional type of male model but Dudley Council workers dared to bare by

Council workers dared to bare by taking their shirts off for a revealing fundraising calendar.

Men working at the authority's Lister Road depot, Netherton, have given up their lunch breaks and evenings over the past few weeks to help create the 2011 calendar. They have posed with their shirts off for black and white images to feature in the calendar which will help to raise cash for the Help for Heroes charity. It will also bring in funds for this year's

It will also bring in funds for this year's ayoral charities which are the Thomas

mayorai charties which are the Thomas Pocklington Trust, Acorns Children's Hospice and the Alzheimer's Society. The calendar has been put together by photographer and council worker Jon Cartwright, who took all the snaps. The 500 calendars are on sale for \$5

each and more than 100 have been sold so

The Help for Heroes charity was set up in 2007 to support injured British service-men and women and provide them with better facilities for treatment and reha-

The authority said it was delighted with how successful the calendar had

Excellent

Leader of Dudley Council Councillor Anne Millward said the calendar had been an excellent idea. "I think it's great that staff at our Lister Road depot have given up their time to raise money for such worthwhile causes." The calendar is available at Lister Road's reception. People can also call 01384 814559 or email

olasta steephon. Feople can also am olasta (Stafes) or email jon.cartwright@dudley.gov.uk
The calendar has been self-funded by friends and family of the Lister Road staff and sponsors have also been sought.
The calendar comes after paramedic Adam Johnson, of Halesowen had a similar idea and got his mates to strip for a sporting-themed calendar.
Money from that project will go to the Breast Cancer Campaign in memory of his late mother-in-law, Lynn Speed, who died from the disease aged 51.
It is available by ringing 07407513297 or from the Workoutz Gym, Grammar School Lane, Halesowen.

FEATURE

thechronicle



Chris Feehan practises mouth-to-mouth resus citation and, below puts a "casualty" into the recovery position

What would you do if someone collapsed?

The majority of people would not feel confident trying to

save a life, something the St John Ambulance wants to

change. CHRIS FEEHAN joins one of its courses

asually stuffing her face with penny chews, she was com-pletely oblivious to what was

pletely oblivious to what was coming next.

She, like any other five-year-old, had a sweet tooth, and in her eagerness she bit off more than she could chew, or indeed swallow.

Suddenly, my little cousin was gagging, turning red, and unable to dislodge the brightly coloured sweet. My cousin was choking and I didn't have enough time to fetch beln

choking and I didn't have enough time to fetch help.
By fluke, my unorthodox version of the Mrs Doubtfire Heimlich Manoeuvre soon had her breathing again.
This was my first and only real experience of administering first aid.
Embarrased at the thought of being unable to help somebody in need because of a lack of basic first aid knowledge, I decided to book myself onto a St John Ambulance

course. Gareth May, St John Ambulance trainer at Wolverhampton's Wharf Street centre, said: "Over half (56%) of people in the West Midlands wouldn't feel confident trying

West Midlands wouldn't feel confident trying to save a life.
"A quarter (29%) would just wait for an ambulance, a third (33%) would try first aid even though they are not sure what to do, and just over a quarter (28%) say they'd know what first aid to do.
"But sadly, our research shows that many would do the wrong thing and could worsen things."

would do the wrong thing and could worsen things."

This April St John Ambulance launched The Difference campaign, which aims to encourage people to learn basic first aid skills which could make the difference between life and death.

According to statistics released by St John, 150,000 people die each year in situations where first aid could have given them a chance to live.

Gareth said: "We believe that anyone who needs first aid should receive it and yet, as our latest research shows, that's not happenig." We can't rely on other people to have the skills – everyone should take the responsibility to learn first aid themselves.

Surprised

"We can all be the difference between a life lost and a life saved." The course taught me many life saving essentials, particularly how to keep an injured or ill person comfortable and alive until paramedics arrive.

until paramedies arrive.

I was surprised to learn that nearly everyone has placed somebody in the recovery position, usually to shove someone on their side to stop them from snoring.

When learning CPR (Cardiopulmonary resuscitation) I was faced with a limbless manikin and at first I was at a loss as to where to begin. Despite what you may have witnessed on Baywatch, often the injured

Classified

party won't come round during CPR but it is essential to perform 30 compressions at a rate of 100 per minute followed by blowing into the person's mouth until their chest

This should be repeated until the person begins the breath unaided, paramedics arrive or if you are too exhausted to continue.

In the session I was also taught how to perform the Heimlich manoeuvre, now known as abdominal thrust, how to treat cuts and burns and how to clear someone's

airway.

Andy Griffiths, aged 24, from Penn,
Wolverhampton, attended the course. He
said "I was in the cubs when I was younger
and learned first aid, so I already knew the
basics but it is useful to refresh because you
don't know what you might have forgotten.

Choking

"It's hard to say if I'd be able to use my first aid skills but I'm sure if push came to shove and someone's life was on the line I'd get stuck in. Everyone should have basic first aid training. It should be part of the national curriculum."

Curriculum.

Knowledge of basic first aid certainly made the difference to Christine Knight, a 59-year-old from Kingswinford was out in Oldbury enjoying a meal with friends when she began choking. Her friends could do little more than offer her some water. Luckily a fellow diner saw the danger and performed several abdominal thrusts and was able to dislodge the food.

When a women collansed at Wolverhamp.

dislodge the food.

When a woman collapsed at Wolverhampton's civic hall recently there were three St John Ambulance volunteers on hand to take control of the situation until paramedics arrived. By using CPR the volunteers managed to get the woman's heart beating and saved her life.

St John Ambulance teaches people first aid so that they can be the difference

Directory



Chris Feehan practises his bandaging skills on a fellow trainee

between a life lost and a life saved. As the nation's leading first aid charity, it teaches more people first aid than any other organisation: each year, more than 800,000 complete a St John Ambulance training course.

Even so, fewer than one in 10 people have

Motora

been trained in first aid.
You could be the difference between life and death. To find out how, visit www.SJA.org.uk or call 08700 10 49 50.

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Fancy that! Big charity boost from characters



SCOOBY DOO, the Ghost-busters and Wolves football mascot Wolfie were just some of the characters who

some of the characters who helped raise more than \$2,500 for Children in Need at a Dudley school. Dormston School, based on Mill Bank, Sedgley, held a range of fundraising activities including fancy dress, cake sales and Dormston's Got Talent.

Money is still being counted but so far the school – a Maths and Computing Specialist College – has accumulated \$2,636.

Festivities ran throughout

£2,636.
Festivities ran throughout the week and started with Mrs Sond's Staff Samosa Shop, which raised £111.

Outstanding

Staff then held a fancy dress day and costumes varied from

day and costumes varied from Spongebob Squarepants to Buzz Lightyear and Woody from Toy Story
A signed Wolves shirt raffle raised around £3,000, while Jordan Wright and Jo Moodie, otherwise known as Double J, won Dormston's Got Talent with a breakdance routine in front of staff judges dressed up as Simon Cowell and Louie Walsh.

School PA Karen Otton said:

Walsh.
School PA Karen Otton said:
"The level of response from
both staff and pupils has been
outstanding at very short
notice.

"Pupils are already talking about what they would like to do for next year."



Donning their best fancy dress, teachers from left, Indy Bassan, Steve Dixon, Phil Bateman, Simon Carroll, Marie Hollyhead



With their cheque for Children in Need, from left, head girl Emily McKeown, deputy head boy Henry Tanswell, head boy Adam Foster and deputy head girl Emily Kelford, all in Year 11



Dormston's very own Scooby Doo cast, from left, teachers Phil Amos, Katie Whitehouse, Kelly Bryant, Stuart Bell and Kath Smith



Receptionist Ann Edwards (left) and Wolves mascot Wolfie with pupils Rosie Downes (left), Olivia Basford, Jake Locke (left) and George Lakin





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Jodie dips her toe into comedy as **Lady of the Lake**

THE NATION'S Nancy, Jodie Prenger, loves to laugh and there will be laughs aplenty when Spamalot, the Monty Python musical, arrives at Birmingham's Alexandra Theatre on Tuesday to provide an alternative to traditional panto until January 1

The Blackpool lass, pictured right in her new part, won the public vote in 2008 on TV show I'd Do Anything to play Nancy in the West End revival of Oliver!

Now she's coming to Birmingham to belt out spoof show tunes as the glamorous

"lovingly ripped off" from the film Monty Python and the Holy Grail by John Du Prez and former Wolverhampton schoolboy and

Towering perfomer - page xx

Python Eric Idle. Matthew Kelly will be showing he's still game for a laugh by playing King Arthur and former EastEnder Todd Carty will be showing his knack for slapstick comedy as the servant Patsy.



Robin 2 displays pre-festive bill

TWO pre-Christmas specials have been lined up for the Robin 2 at Bilston.

Billed as a 'may never be repeated show' the original line-up of the legendary Argent have teamed up for just a few UK shows.

This exclusive show featuring Jim Rodford, Russ Ballard and Bob Henrit is at the Robin on Tuesday, December 7 and will feature all the classics including Hold Your Head Up and God Gave Rock 'n' Roll To You, which was covered by KISS in 1992.

The support is The Zippers, a professional five-piece band, performing the rock and posngs from the 60s right up to the present day. Tickets are (advance) £16 (doop) £17.

And just confirmed is the Xmas Special on Sunday, December 19 with Steve Harley, who after 36 years of touring, still says: "Playing live is the biggest thrill there is." Steve Harley & Cockney Rebel will be appearing in a show that will cover a 12-album career, with tracks from each one. Tickets are (advance) £20 (doop) £2.50

For both book online at www.therobin Coulk or call the box office on 01902 401211.

For both book online at www.therobin. co.uk or call the box office on 01902 401211.





Children's classics take centre stage - page 29



Josh, older and wiser - page 34

JLS, a group who we just love more . . .

IT'S been a phenomenal year for JLS, the massive success of second album Outta This World has established them

as one of the UK's top acts.
Aston, Marvin, Oritse and JB probably knew they were destined for success after finishing as runners-up on The X Factor in 2008 but could not have guessed just how enthusiastically Jack the Lad Swing has been embraced by the British public, their self-titled debut album having sold over

self-titled debut album having sold over a million copies.
They've had to add a third date at the LG Arena, Juanuary 19, after selling out their concerts there on Tuesday (December 7) and on December 21.
The lads also recently released the official BBC Children In Need charity single, Love You More, though it looks like the public already love them lots.



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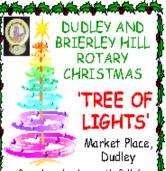
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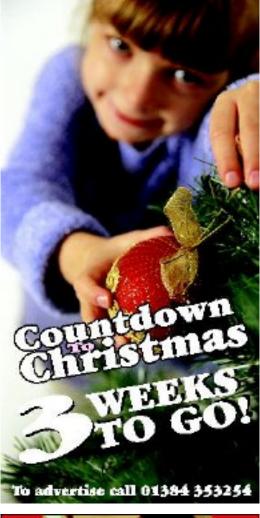
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the pulse

Heroines take centre stage in two classics

TWO of children's literature's favourite young heroines are being brought to the stage during the festive period. Matilda, Roald Dahl's telekinetic schoolgirl, gets her revenge on a monstrous headmistress and a loveless family in the Royal Shakespeare's colourful new production at Stratford with songs by Aussie comedian Tim Minchin. It's on until January 30.

Birmingham Repertory Theatre brings Frances Hodgson Burnett's childhood favourite, The Secret Garden, to the stage this Christmas, to January 8. This musical adaptation will bring to life characters from this classic children's story.

When 10-year-old Mary Lennox is orphaned she must make the journey from sun-baked India to live with her distant uncle in wintry Yorkshire. Spoil and unhappy it's only when Mary meets a local lad, Dickon, and learns of a lost garden that she begins to take an interest in the house and its inhabitants.

Playing Mary Lennox, fresh from the West End production of Legally Blonde, where she was understudying to the lead role of Elle. Playing Dickon will be Torn Aldridge, who returns to The Rep for the third time following His Dark Materials and Peter Pan.

And there is a third heroine, Cinderella, at Birmingham Hippodrome.

Materials and Peter Pan.
And there is a third heroine, Cinderella, at Birmingham Hippodrome.
David Birtley's new production of the classic fairy tale for Birmingham Royal
Ballet, with music by Prokofiev, mask
the company's 20th year in Birmingham
and is on until December 12. The performance on December 7 will featuring local teenagers with no previous ballet experience who have been working with the company in recent months. A musical version of Monty Python and the Holy Grail, Spamalot, opens at



The three young actresses who take it in turns to play Matilda

it in turns to play Matilda
Birmingham's Alexandra Theatre on
Tuesday to provide an alternative to the
usual festive fare. The show, which has
been touring after a successful West
End run, will include former Stars In
Their Eyes host Matthew Kelly as King
Arthur, I'd Do Anything winner Jodie
Prenger as The Lady of the Lake, and
ex- EastEnder and Grange Hill actor
Todd Carty as Patsy, the put-upon serf.
Co-written by Python Eric Idle, it will
be on at the Alex until January 1. Incidentally, Phil Jupitus will be wearing the
crown when the show comes to Wolver-

dentally, Phil Jupitus will be wearing the crown when the show comes to Wolver-hampton's Grand Theatre in April.

A revival of Keith Dewhurst's original stage adaptation of Lark Rise to Can-dleford, is at the Grand until Saturday after which the theatre prepares for the arrival of Christopher Biggins, a giant genie and the rest of the cast of Christ-mas panto Aladdin.

Jedward, Symphony Hall,
Birmingham
LOVE them or hate them - and lots of girls love them judging by the turnout - Jedward have become the pop stars they so desperately wanted to be.
The Irish twins with the gravity-defying quiffs had appeared ultimate desperate 'wannabes' when first unleashed on the public via The X Factor. But here they were, record deal in their back pocket and playing to a teenybopper audience getting close to a frenzy.
From the moment they hit the stage, in pseudo-military gear

From the moment they hit the stage in pseudo-military gear with their version of the Black Eyed Peas' I've Got A Feeling, they didn't stop dancing and dashing around the stage. John

Lark Rise to Candleford,
Grand Theatre
Due to weather conditions, the lorry
carrying the coestumes and scenery for
the opening night of Lark Rise to Candleford at the Grand Theatre, was stuck
in snow in Scotland.
The production still went ahead with
a full cast dressed in black and a bare
stage. Because of the period of the
play, a bit of imagination was called for
from the audience.

From the audience.

But full credit to this talented cast, what could have turned into a disaster turned into an unexpectedly entertaining evening that made you appreciate good acting

What was interesting to observe was the dual roles cleverly taken on by many of the cast that would have otherwise gone unnoticed had they been in

costume. Folk songs were expertly played and sung by the cast and there were some brilliant comic moments when the women of the village gathered for a good gossip. If you can enjoy this production under these circumstances, just imagine how enjoyable it will be when the costumes and scenery arrive.

LES JOWETT

Tell me on a Sunday,
Alexandra Theatre
This a romantic adventure of a
young English girl newly arrived
in New York seeking companionship and love. This innoving and
emotional story of broken
dreams and loneliness, with a
little comedy thrown in, is theatre

REVIEWS

and Edward must leave a sugar famine behind them in Ireland, or is it the E numbers that send them into hyperactive mode?

John (or was it Edward?) even showed us his handstand skill -you don't get that at an Elton John concert.

Like the Duracell bunnies of pop, they didn't stop for 90 minutes. Their energy probably melted the snow off the venue's roof. Performing live vocals to recorded music, they gave the Jedward treatment to karaoke pop favourites Fight For Your Right, Teenage Kicks, We Will Rock You, a Wham medley and chant-along numbers such as Jump and I Like To Move It.

A version of the Jonas Brother's SOS and Lady Gaga's

at its best. This production has

been thoughtfully reworked for present day audiences with the use of a laptop and mobile

none.

The star of this one-woman, one-act song cycle, Claire Sweeney, gives a superb and competent portrayal of the char-

Bad Romance, complete with the

Bad Romance, complete with the dance moves, went down particularly well. In there somewhere was an original song, All The Small Things.

They ended with one for the nans – The Bay City Rollers' Bye Bye Baby - before the inevitable encore, the lee lee Baby-Under Pressure mash-up and Ghost-busters, during which they sprayed the audience with water blasters.

John (or was it Edward'?)

blasters.
John (or was it Edward?)
jumped off the stage, was
mobbed and grabbed by two
young ladies dressed from head
to toe as bananas, proving they do have appeal.

was a highly entertaining

night of pop panto. **LEON BURAKOWSKI**



Cinderella, Birmingham Hippodrome
BIRMINGHAM Royal Ballet bring their 20th anniversary year celebrations in the city to an end with an enchanting Christmas present. BRB director David Bintley has created a spellbinding Cinderella, lavish and dream-like, a treat on a par with the company's usual festive offering. The Nutcracker.

There is comedy, too, in the choreography of the Ugly Sisters and the human-sized mice, frog and lizards, who magically turn into Cinderella's liveried servants when the pumpkin transforms into an ornate carriage.

Elisha Willis is a most elegant Cinderella and lain Mackay a dashing Prince, and Prokofiev's romantic music also finds a perfect partner in this fairlytale world made real. It's Bintley's vision but John MacFarlane's designs and David Finn's lighting play a vital role in bringing it to the stage so memorably.

Cinderella continues until December 12.

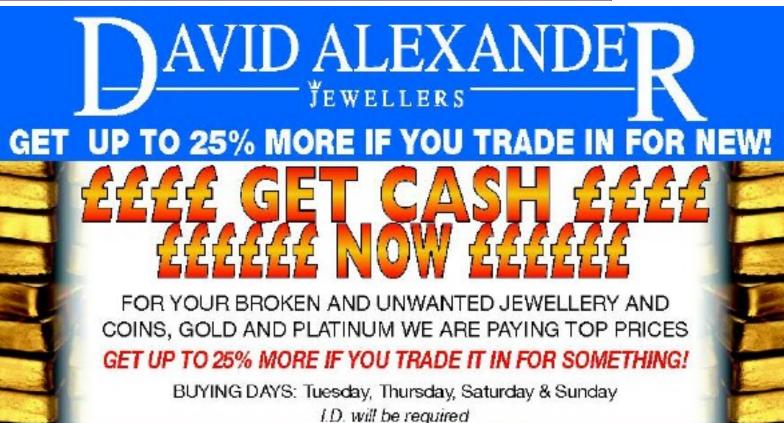
LEON BURAKOWSKI

acter with some excellent vocals acter with some excellent vocals to Andrew Loyd Webber's music. Take That Look Off Your Face, Unexpected Song, I Still Believe In Love and the title song Tell Me On A Sunday were all delivered beautifully by Sweeney. A huge task well done.

LES JOWETT







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the pulse

The Blackpool lass who's now a towering performer

I'D Do Anything winner Jodie Prenger is looking on the bright side of life, having left the cast of Oliver! to star in touring Monty Python musical Spamalot and with a TV sit-com to be broadcast in the new year.

The Blestere better is playing a brought disc

The Blackpool better is playing a showbiz diva in the musical featuring Always Look On The Bright Side Of Life and she will take a lead role in BBC show Candy Cabs, a comedy from the writers of Dalziel and Pasco.

writers of Dalziel and Pasco. It's about a 'women only' taxi firm in the North-West and also features ex-EastEnder Jo Joyner, Lisa Millett and Cairie Sweeney. In the two years since the public chose Jodie, over the judges' favourites, to win the coveted role of Nancy in the West End revival of Olivert, her rollercoaster career ride has been on a permanent in

up. She has become a regular on TV and radio, pre-senting the Lottery Show, covering for Elaine Paige and Paul O'Grady on Radio 2, and making

From reality show to stardom, Jodie Prenger talks to LEON BURAKOWSKI about Spamalot, a TV show . . . and her pets

lots of concert appearances, many with her showbiz pal John Barrowman. She also made an album of nostalgic wartime songs and has a new album coming out on major label Sony next year. Before I'd Do Anything, Jodie first got some-times unflattering exposure on reality weight loss

show The Biggest Loser (she lost 8st) but has no regrets. "It gave me my health back," says the size 14 songstress. I try to get out and exercise but I love my food. I couldn't be one of those people who sniff a lettuce leaf.

who sniff a lettuce leaf.

But her biggest love, as those who saw her help
pick the dog to play Toto on Over The Rainbow
may guess, are her animals.

"I've got loads of pets back home in Blackpool
where I lived with my mum and dad." she says.
"Three dogs, two parrots, pet chickens, got a tor-

toise, two rabbits, one cockatiel, two budgies and some fish . . . and obviously Hogan is with me. "Hogan Jacko Prenger, he is a Yorkshire terrier, the son of my other one at home. He's still a puppy. He's very good."

She will be lighting up the stage at the Alexan-

the son of my other one at home. He's still a puppy. He's very good."

She will be lighting up the stage at the Alexandra Theatre in some amazing gowns as the Lady of the Lake - a mickey take of showbiz leading ladies - in the musical based on Monty Python and the Holy Grail. "I saw Spamalot on the West End and loved the show, loved the comedy, loved the costumes, loved the sets - I loved everything about it. So when I got asked to do it, I jumped at the chance," Jodie says.

But wasn't she worried that it made fun of the showbiz world she now inhabits? "It's got to be done. If you can't laugh at yourself what can you laugh at?" she answers. "I can't stand 'starry' people."

Jodie learned her craft the hard way, on the northern cabaret circuit, supporting the likes of comedians Jimmy Cricket and the late Bernard Manning. "Oh, the Manning crowd," she looks to the ceilling as she speaks. "They had about five teeth between them. "The cabaret circuit was hard graft but it really helped me, to be able to have a good laugh with an audience and I sang all the songs of the musicals. "I'd Do Anything was hard, you had to put on this amazing show every week but doing something you love doing doesn't really feel like work."

I sow the public a gazillion thankyous. It is everything I have dreamt of Dressing up and singing these songs, it's like being a kid."

Spamalot is staged at the Alexandra Theatre from December 7 to January 1. Jodie will not be appearing on December 22, 23, 24 and 26 because she'll be going home to Blackpool to spend Christmas with her family.



Jodie Prenger who is starring as the Lady of the Lake in Spamalot at the Alexander

Josh, older and wiser

A BROKEN heart inspired the lyrics of Hold Me Down, this year's hit album from young Surrey rockers You Me At Six, who headline at Wolverhampton Civic Hall next week.

Frontman Josh Franceschi told the Chronicle: "I have only had my heart broken once.
"The relationship with my long term girlfriend finished just before the band began work on Hold Me Down. "It was a cathartic process. I poured my emotions into the lyrics. I think that is why people can identify with it."
The success of the second album from the melodic power punks has catapulted them from the Wulfrun Hall two years ago to playing to more than five thousand fans at the Civic on Monday and Tuesday.

Josh says the arenas are next. "We

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"There are different types of euphoria depending on the venue."
"I enjoy playing an intimate venue where there are no barriers and everyone is sweaty and I am just a step away from the fans but I also enjoy playing in front of thousands at an arena."

He said that some of the songs from debut album Take Off Your Colours may be reworked at the Civic gigs. "Some of those songs were written when we were 15 to 16 years old. Now we're 21-year-olds," he explained.
"But we always keep in mind what our fans like. We feel like they've grown up wift us."
"It's good to be coming back to Wolverhampton."

"It's good to be coming back to Wolverhampton."



Josh Franceschi

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The top property guide for Dudley, Stourbridge, Halesowen and Kidderminster

A substantial family home in popular area

ably improved traditional detached house, which is situated in a sought after residential suburb of Sedgley, is now available through Wakeman estate

through Wakeman estate agent.

Offers in the region of £395,000 are invited for 76 Sandyfields Road in Sedgley which occupies a large garden plot with views towards the Shropshire Hills.

The well-presented home offers spacious family accommodation and also comes with a high standard of decoration and quality fittings throughout.

tings throughout.

The house is accessed through a uPVC entrance door to a hallway with cloakroom, understairs storage cupboard and hardwood

Access from here is available to a Access from here is available to a through-lounge which measures 15ft 9in x 11ft 8in and includes a fireplace with marble inset and hearth, gas flame-effect fire and uPVC windows to both the front and rear. To the front of the house

is a dining room measuring 11ft 5in x 10ft 11in with double radiator and a coved ceiling.

Having been comprehensively refitted with an extensive range of units including base cupboards, the kitchen measures 20ft 3in x 10ft and includes a one-and-half bowl sink unit with mixer taps, drawer unit, integrated dishwasher, refrigerator and freezer. There is also a cooker housing a double oven and halogen hob with hood and an extensive range of wall cupboards, a wine rack, tiled splashbacks, ceramic tiled floor, radiator and French door to the garden.

Utility

Currently used as a utility/storage room is the garage which measures 15ft 7in x 8ft 3in. Once upstairs, the first floor landing is approached by stairs with hardwood spindle staircase while access from the landing is provided to four bedrooms and a bathroom.

The master bedroom measures.

The master bedroom measures 15ft 9in x 11ft 9in and includes built-in wardrobes with matching

and dressing table with two sets of drawers.

The other bedrooms also include built-in wardrobes, double radiators and coved ceilings.

Fitted with a free standing rolledged bath and a separate shower cubicle is the bathroom which measures 10ft 10in x 6ft 3in. The walls are fully tiled and there is also a pedestal wash basin and low-level WC, double radiator, two uPVC double-glazed windows, coved ceiling and ceiling lights.

Once outside, there is a lawned front garden with borders and wall

Once outside, there is a lawned front garden with borders and wall which enclose an asphalt driveway with ample parking.

A gated side entrance provides access to the rear garden with an extensive paved patio with matching walling and inset lighting, gravel beds and steps leading a to lawned garden with borders and beds.

Viewing is by prior appointment with Wakeman estate agents — visit www.wakeman-online.co.uk for further information or call 01902 885894.



Wakeman estate agent is managing the sale of this four bedroomed family home with utility, located in the sought after area of Sedgley

Wakemai



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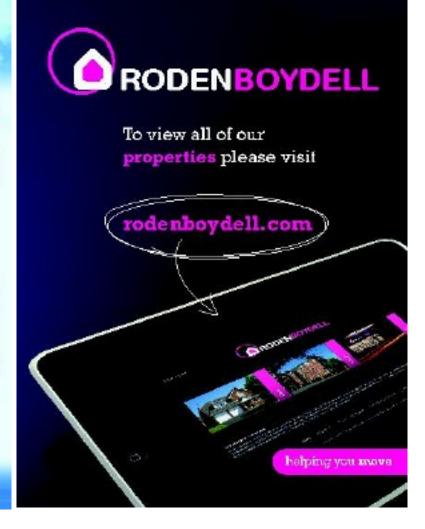
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PROPERTY AUCTION Tuesday, 7th December 2010



71 BRUFORD ROAD, PENN FIELDS,

BRIFORD ROAD, PENN PIBLES,
WOLVERHAMPTON
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too Reception, Kirden area, Loffey, Ground Ploor
Bathroom, Three Becknown, Rear Gazlen,
Gudde: £44,000/£49,000
VIEWING: BRIDAY & SATURDAY, 3nd & 4th December (a) 9.30 a.m.



39 ETTINGSHALL ROAD,

39 KTTINGS HALL ICOMAD,
COSKLKY
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Large Rear Garden, Veficialta recess and Polifring,
Gulder, \$80,000 / \$90,000
VICOMING, ERIDAY & SATURIDAY, 3rd & 4th December (a) 10.15 a.m.



41 ETTINGSHALL ROAD, COSELEY Spaciona Semi, ample off-road Parfring, Pords, Hall, Thro Reception, Sem Lounge, Thro Morea, 15ft X fefrar, Three Bechoons, Baffuroon, Gias Heating of Radiators, rajority nP VC mindons. Rear Carden neift 34ft Ciarden Room/More

Galde: £80,000/£90,000 VICWING: FRINAY & SATURDAY, 3rd & 4th December (a) 10:15 a.m.



2 ROOKERY ROAD, c/o MEADOW LANE,
LANESFIELD
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VIEWING: ERHIDAY & SATURIDAY,
Park & 4th December (of 11.00 a.m.)



Investment THE STERREY BILSTON
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Baffroon, Three Bedcoors, Carden
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3rd & 4th December (a) 12.00 mon



In vertment 473 BIRNINGHANI NEW ROAD, LANESPIELD An Stad Connect Human vide day Song pulan Hell, Fron Stangelon, Silahan, Fron Kahuma, Mahanan (Gan Haning to Malifetta Contaile, Mile Yearn Marchi, MC all, Mar Gandarayyana, SSI (maliph, Malifetti (G. Magnilla) Francey - standel inter te 51, 60

Gidde: £38,000 / £43,000 VIEWING: ERIDAY & MONDAY, 3rd & 6th December (a) 11.36 a.m.



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Rechlerated Vaccint	Lot 42:	16 Victoria Ricarii, Steolifoni Rechienttal Valcant	Lot 88:	25 Pale Street, Upper Gongi Redilettal Vacant
Commercial Vacant	Lot #8:	23 Westpolist, Hermitage Road, Eligita storr	Lot 24:	8 Acons Grove, Wonkiey, Stouthribbe
Rechleratal Vaccint	Lot 44:	11 Klarket Place, Weshiester y Commercial Part Vacant Part Investment	Lot 99	177 Wolverhampton Street, Dialley Commercial Residential Investment
Commercial Vacant	Lot 45:	Hanitolok Court, Wood Lare, Streetly Brownert S2 Cition Street, Wolverlampton Commercial Part Vicanit Part investment	Lot 88:	25 Light to on Hill, Smetterlok. Reduled a Viscont
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Rechleratal Vacquit	Lot 61:	71 Benimore Street, Featon, Stoke on Treat. Residents Vacant	Lot 38	88 Central Avenue, Bilston
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ZOAR STREET

Spacious mid farraced house with sizeable rear kitchen/diner extension and rear parking and gazage in need of some updating. Wikim distrace of the viltage centre # Mid Terroced # Louige # Diring Floors # Mitchen / Diner Enterreion ★ Three Bed scorne ★ Bethroom

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A Terrace il two bedroom property computating entropice half, loringe. clining room, further reception from, externled kitchendomye, tamily bathroom, rear panten.

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Modern ground foortwo teritorin unisonette comprising entrance labby, la migs. Nicheri, kathroom, frontinici lering niders and chiseway, UEWING RECOKINE NOED.



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Hollmor Burdons, Oldbury



RiGecond 1 por 2 bed room aportment briefly comprising a communal entrance, lounge, littered and technoon, master be from with emality, also herefring communal gordane and allocated narking.



A firee balmoin semi-detailed property briefly comprising of: Entrance hall, two receiption rooms. kitchen, bathroom and reargarden



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HOUPYWARD CHAIR. One terhoom first floor flat comprising communit entance, foringe, & their bathroom, communal gardens and parage. VIEWHIS RECONTRIENCED



This rietained house has entrance half. lounge, dining room, conservatory. kittinar, utility, downstains see, bathroom, enraulte, front and lear-proteon, gauge, er salte and disvesoy.

How Road, Dudley



A mid temporal two bedroom property commissing stated extrance patentiesery lounge i fining room. States, rathy, butterson and near murand, VEYING RECONSTIDED.

PireBoo Court, Burlion



Terrored three bedicomproperty comprising entrance half formus kitchen/timer; family kathgrom, front and revingentens and parking.
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Alexandra Yâry, Tividai e



Offering no upward chain two bedroom and to recent property comprising lounge, kitchen diner, bethea on, front and lear gardens and garage to tent. VIEWHUR RECONDENDED



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Tiensderholf Way, This on



Modern four beiling in three storey town traine computaing entrance hall, littchen, lounge, downstaire sec. family bathroom, en suite, rear garden ami allocated parting spaces.

Close incides Road, Britishey HIII



San detached three befroon property congrising emerce profit affaired list large, list space, she between the profit of the congress of the profit of the congress of the cong



A flat Mety compliany of alounge. kitchen, family technoon, stairs leading to further bed togin/laftroain. and communal parders.



Sami datached fures bedupon:

properly conguising lounge, kitchen, ubit by area, consensions, family limitions, front and rearganisms. YESYING RECONSTRUCTOR.

Oracle Bridge Road, Bilefor



Terraced two hedicion projectly comprising to unje, attricer/filter; hathroom, front and rearganisms, allocated parking, YEVY INS RECOMMENDED.

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CHRONICLE MOTORING 2011 facelift for the popular supermini

Corsa range is refreshed







Vibrant colours dominate the cabin

The Corsa has been re-styled at the front to give it more of a 'smiley' face and bring it in line with other Vauxhall model

THE popular Corsa has been redesigned to bring it up to date with the rest of the Vauxhall range.

From February next year the car will sport a fresh new face, trims and colours.

The Corsa, Vauxhall's second best-selling model after the Astra and a near-permanent fixture in the UK's top-three best sellers' list, has now adopted many of the premium styling cues from other recently launched Vauxhalls, such as the Insignia, Astra and Meriva.

The new Corsa features a signature chrome bar, carrying the new Griffin badge, stretching across

been the front grille, while a re-styled front bumper with the a more prominent, wider lower grille gives the Corsa a smiling appearance.

a summing appearance.

Framing the Corsa's new face are 'Eagle-Eye' headlamps, which have also made an appearance on the recently launched Meriva. The units have a chrome finish and include daytime running lights as standard across the range. New chrome-finished fog lamps and housings complete the picture at the front.

navigation system, as well as a CD/tuner, aux-in, USB and Bluetooth mobile phone connectiv-

in, USB and Bluetooth mobile phone connectivity.

Outside, the new Corsa benefits from new 16-inch alloy wheels on both SE and SXi models, while the 192PS VXR receives the option of a new 18-inch alloy wheel, modelled on the design of the optional 20-inch wheel worn by the Insignia VXR.

The Corsa's new appearance complements recent upgrades to chassis and powertrain With its fresh new look, the Corsa is now a very different car to the one on sale a year ago. Before the latest exterior and interior design changes were made, the Corsa had already benefited from a long list of significant upgrades to tis chassis and powertrains.

Bushes

For example, certain Ecoflex engines now feature Vauxhall's Start/Stop technology, which has reduced emissions on the 1.3 CDTi (95PS) Ecoflex model to just 94g/km, combined with fuel consumption of 78.5mpg on the combined cycle.

78.5mpg on the commune cycle.
To maintain its success in the small-car class, Vauxhall's engineers also made important revisions to the ear's steering and suspension set-ups. Softer springs were employed in the front suspension, mated to an suspension, mated to an anti-roll bar with new bushes and an increased diameter, improving ride and control characteris-

The new Corsa range starts at £9,995, based on 2011's 20 per cent VAT starts at£9,995, based of 2011's 20 per cent VAT rate. However, setting aside the 2.5 per cent VAT increase, which will apply to all cars from January 4, the new Corsa prices have only risen by between £60 and £75, depending upon model and, reflecting the exterior and cabin enhancements on all models in the range.

The flagship model is the SRi 1.7 CDTi, pried at £17,390 on the road.

any of the premium styling cues from other ecently launched Vauxhalls, such as the Insignia, stra and Meriva. The new Corsa features a signature chrome bar, arrying the new Griffin badge, stretching across SUZUKI thas teamed up with the 2010 Clothes Show Live at Brimingham's NEC on December-8 to become the show's official ar sponsor. Pre-launch activity was taking lace at the Bullring Shopping Centre Brimingham with Suzuki taking litz and glamour to the streets with a tawaki event hosted by Jeff Brazier. He is the former partner of reality where Led Ceach whe kild of event.

SUZUKI has teamed up with the 2010 Clothes Show Live at Birmingham's NEC on December 3-8 to become the show's official car sponsor.

car sponsor.

Pre-launch activity was taking place at the Bullring Shopping Centre in Birmingham with Suzuki taking glitz and glamour to the streets with a catwalk event hosted by Jeff Brazier.

He is the former partner of reality V star Jade Goody who died of cervical cancer in 2009.

Visitors to the stand will be invited to participate in a competition to win

Visitors are invited to come to the Suzuki stand and enter their details into the daily draw to become one of the lucky finalists.

On the final day of the show, Wednesday December 8, finalists will be invited back to find out if they are the lucky winner of the Suzuki.



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YOUNG also sensitive, lengthenty being therefor service outgoing mon for fun, consents, pensitive LTR, Tel Not 0905-456 9569 Southern sensitive to the pensitive to the pensitiv

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PRETTY slim female likes to cook remark: neals in WLTM similar testionate reals in the profilings in life with. Tal. Not. 0905-438-6562. Sea Not 253941.

RRIBNOLY block founds, attoctive, 48, remonal. Y block female, attactive, 48, single mean, professional, sector attactive, assign mean, bands, professional, grantice materials ITAL Tel No. 0905-486-6862. Soc No.: 3-0366-7.

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Sox No: 340265
ATTRACTIVE Etd., black female, 54, 20, 30 meetion boild, kind, hearest, considerate, on heare, seeks granting tall, failfull, 31 plus male, 45, 20 with even leane for services relationship. Tall No: 0005439

OPBN friendly Christian fransk; profes stenst, profes kind, caring, Christian mate for friendship and mane. Tyl No: 0005 436 6962 Sea No: 343867 2

ATTRACTIVE single ment, 40, entysing, sods similar grey for great times, passi. He retaineships, Tall Not 0005 439 8992. Sou Not 948010 ²²

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91% and attactive. Tel Not 0905 456 6562 Sox Not 337465 WEST Millands fanals, attactive, slin, decard, NAS, sectoralin, decard attactive mater. Tel Not 0905 456 6562 Sox Not 343735

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SLIM 32y old Bende, kind, ening, good fators, herest, likes to lace for, seeks mate. Tel No. 0005 436 6992 See No. 399373 50

SLONDE stractive, oderated body tall, sing on vy 47, sector tall, professional, 49 bit 19 Not 0905 456 6562 Sox Not 392478 3

992년9월 SLIM atterios 24% old female, NS, no-fes, files trand, nighte out, seda male, N on fer LTR. Tel No: 0005 486 6992 Soa No: 947401월 ²²

sou Not 911-91 3 ³²
ATTRACTIVE Founds, 42, slim, bundte, notice, NS, liber transf, nights out, we chards away, arche slim mate far possible rethinastilla, Tel Not 0005 439 6502 Stor Not 327570

YOUNG Tesking, partly female, 40, female, 40, female, sin, notics, NS, seeks after fee, effect make for friendshiphelation sings. Tel. Not. 0905, 436, 6562, Soa, Not organiz.

ATTRIACTIVE 40yrold female, bounder,

SINALE men, nen drinker, seeka make 6a nigita est, mesta sud lata et fon. Ontkey NINO: 0005 438 6582 30a No: 353035 3^{-21}

assess 3 ***
ATTRACTIVE mean; 40, 50 8ins, cinc ne, wolks, reminy, 99.Tr3 attractive native of similar age for fitted ship, needed near. 78 Nov. 0905, 436, 6562, 8 cs. Nov. 347-479

SH 4/20 SUM struction, self-sufficient belo, 40, CSCH, seeks special make, 55-50 to strace evening indext, theatre, possible relationship. Tel. No. 0905 498-8992 Stor No. 551613 및

franstr, intelligent, werke bracest, caning make for form and friendshing maybe mare Tal No:0905 438 6562 Stor No:

FB:MALE kind, giving, thoughtful, sonsi fee, sector lifetime friend to lesse and undestand me for who I am. Tal No: 0905 436 8582 Sov No: 350397

QUAVY est baied femals, been but in the post sector often make to buy her fewers and mend has below beaut. Tel No: 0905-436-6562 Sov No: 377432 \$ modulus vas esez acumoda /vasz g MISCHIEVOUS withy podeséanal, vary attactive filica media ent, arta, media acuta confident male to aliane filiand ahip, truat, pasailak: LTA. Tal No: 0905 436 6562 Bow No: 353453 B

9HROPSHIRE (anak, 40, seeking Gentlydafenship with a gentine make. Tal No: 0005 436 6562 Sox No: 953077 ²³

LITTLE bit nice and definitely a little bit narghty I hasginative energy blends seeks male for kisses and ordifics. Tal No: 0905 496 8592 Sos No: 963428 \$ \$\circ\$

993-23 J AV MDOWED Smale, 35, Nors sections, history, mode set, sector male, for familiating, mode mer. Tel Nor 0905 489-9502 Sox Nor 399765 J PETTE shall latical help 45, size 10, sector considerate, NS male, 25-91 for 100, Tel Nor 0905 439 6592 Sox Nor 333657

333651 STEFF dalk leis, single ment, small buld, likes rossynights indert, seeds sin-gle dad, 30,30 fe friendship, possible educationitys. Tal. Not 0905, 436, 6592 Son Not 333173 2

Sox No: 333173 \$\frac{3}{2}\$

MIDDA's Iskets, hist, special cycs, Bees country-site, pubs, mostly, middle in, sector similar mate. Tel No: 0005 436 e852 Sox No: 332237

BLACK founds; 38, sector mate, 30 59, selectrones, furthering during sort car ing. Tel No: 0005 436 e852 Sox No: 327355

327355 HELEN 33, one child, blanke bair, 50 Sine, sine, attestive, filos swimming, charleg seeks mate, 43 55 for filand sing, maybe mate. 14, No. 9905–39 6562 Sou No. 331399 3

BENE 72, NS, series, 50 2ins, slim, Bende Issin, series similar male for ficielship, maybe mere. Tel No: 0905 439,6562 Stor No: 331301

498 9592 3 co. No. 397301*
SLONDE femals, 32, for leving Bos-letting les hair down and lid-king her-letting les hair down and lid-king her-leting the mate, 25-91, Tal No. 9995 498 9592 3 co. No. 323-477

□ 438 Isricel help 5t, seeds NS mate,

4) 50 for friendship and nights cot. Tel No: 0005 439 6562 Sox No: 330543 g ATTRACTIVE widow, 54 7ins, slim, CSCH, CHAC, files Indilays, days on, sodergraf for friendship and logsiness. Tel No: 0005-458 9562 Box No: 290037 SUE yang finking 5-8y del femak; varied interests, likes mosie, walks, din ems, pets, festlad, sectla NAS, generica mate: 6s ficiolating, medic most material No: 0905-436-6562 Sou No: 323177

FB:tALE 58, discretel, N.R. files the are, most, sects hereat, saing, lexing mate for friendship, mayter meet. Tel No: 0905 439 6562 Sou No: 928937 ∰ ATTRACTIVE Islands founds, become cycs, life and seed of any party seeds similar hardscare made to self a laif of function. Tall Not 0905 496 6562 Bos Not 355423 §

STUNNING Caribboan block beauty, 33, size: (0, 50 flins, intelligent, caring, classes, works generate, solvent, remain (c, molt, 33 45 fer loving, caring relationship, 14 No. 0005 436 6562 Soa No. 326751 3

No: 324757 2 30537 bely 42 dask led, 61, slim, grost beking seeks mely, 41 50 who will do so be its richt Teil No: 0005 439 6392. Con No: 22401 bely, 80%, No, cods Remained part, 85 v550 friend skip and company, bloot for granier. Was Relianch, 51 No: 0005 439 6392 Son No: 22570

con wor x25.7/2 ATTRACTIVE skin (enakt, 82, divered, 10 dibl.), 3 Sis, meden, yang at beat, serka gendire, nice looking, etean makt, ser 3s. Tel No: 0905-486 6592 Sox No: 383315

seaste 60YB dellach, young at heart, discreed, nestiam build, likes kisses, coddes, sedec graft 50 W with CSCM and similar likes 10 No. 0905 436 6592 Bos No. 334927

No: 334627 DO yea know what wearen went? 40g dd petite bely needs appling and leta of less: by attractive male, 45-55. Tel No: 0905-498-9982-Box No: 327573 \$2

WEST Brownich formats, late 50%, mod-on, remarks, excepting, seeks selec, geneine make, 45-90 for LTS. Crize pac-fement, Tal No: 0005-436-6562 Sou No:

SSEAUTHALL dark cycl benedic, 30, outgoing, down to certh, fit and series less much to selfs sources apoids, books unimpostent. Tel. No. 9005–436, 6562 Soc No. 353427 3

GBNUINE West Branwich female, surske, namy interest, seeks filmsk, diver parameter for LTR. Tel No: 0905 498 6502 Stor No: 394941

COMMENT I toxing franch; Black Iron, good eyes, CSCA, Blos condepide, coxy rights in, mests, seeks similar mats. Tel No: 0905-498-6592 Sox No: 233777 3

33377 원 SARAH 20, attactics, brown baildays, nice passendity, file pets, seetle simila-nate, bamberne for filenthing, maybe mare. Tal No: 0005 439 6592 Stor No: 317025 및 화

317025 B 87 LADY 97, N/S, coming filter speak, seeks made, 90 plus for friendship, mayler mear. Tel Nov. 0005, 439, 8592 Stor Nov. 323520

VOMNO 72y old female, alim, select, alterdire, likes walks, seeds similar mate. Tel No. 0005 486 6992 Sox No. 204417 S

জন্মনা প্র MARIA 38, Bende, at sins, caring, Ben nights in/set, sector caring male for friendship, maybe mere: Tel No: 0905 ধ্রণ 9562 Box No: 320310 ই

SIVS old forests, young at least, illest circus, fleater, meake est, puls, walks, halitays, seeks geneine, treatwently rash, 48 %. Tel No: 0905 436 6592 Sox No: 339275

So. No: 399275
SROFESSIONAL beb, young 30, feelingsleb, phosent, kind, files country side, outdoors, beliefster, family fife, secks phosent, countred Christian asks, Tal No: 005-48-6592 So. No:



MICHELL Eldad, British, 30, conzy, slim, size: (2, 50 Sins, secolabe, friendly, undesstanding, lexing, seeds male, 30 38 to enjay consults nights. Tall No: 0905 439 6562 Sov No: 317045

FB:14LE medium build, seeks mice: NS male, 49-42 for fur and friendship, maybe more: West Midands Tol No: 0905-498-8992-8 ox No: 997925-2

61943 EEN arcita maio 32 % fo friend ahis, mayle: mare: Tel No: 0905 486 8562 Soa No: 323548 결

LADY 78, N/S, coning, respectable, 98.TM gradienses, 70.78 for critique, lediclaye, day hips and friendship. Tel No: 0905-499-6562 Sou No: 340027

normula da Baza norma sulur ATTRACTIVE glamacore, block franch, yang 42 sedamaki fa firanshipilan gani LTR. Ali Normus 1995 day 8982 Sox Norma veriabing nighta on, sedan stinadist maki fa firanship, makir mac. Ni Normus 1995 day 8982 Sox Norma 1995 day 8982 Sox Norma 1995 day 8982

Soa No: 336477 29 ETTY size 8 female, 79, seeka male to spell and treat her like a 2 increas. Tel No: 0005 439 9562 Soa No: 335019

rec suus 438 6562 Stor No. 35010 ATTRACTIVE pedit female, 36, single rum, likes nights inken, cinema, ses site, days rut, seeks mate with similar interests. Tal No. 0905 439 6562 Stor No. 317/51 \$\$

VAL 35, single mem, seeks male fo féadaigt, margle mere. Top No: 0905 456 6562 Sou No: 334695 ()

LADY 90, afm, CSCN, filos croking, rights on, such spanning grap 91 to 60 fearbidg, medic man. Tel Not 0905 49 6502 Stor Not 333183

see ease 30 o No. 333193 KARIEN 47, 50 9 ins, divitational, all selfer, deven to certif, liber drink, dance, seesifissing, home fife, seeds talk, professeral mate, NS for home; professeral professeral materials and not seen and not TALL afin, yang at heat 30y old fonsk, acekatal, kind heated nakefo righta ent and exagonicuship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Stor No: 323363 []

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esantyside, nighta est, dancing eine na, theater, helidaya, aceka gent with ainitar interesta. Tal No: 0905 438 8582 Soa No: 303305

ATTRACTIVE female, mediam bailit, dak hai, hazel eyes, wedamale, 20 30 for elationality. Tal No: 0905-499-9992 Sto. No: 315-815 808-815-815

Sox No. 375415
90/31 years bely stim, 50 Sus, years orthode, GSCM, hourst, coning, being, from social results are proposed to the configuration of the confi

DAVM 45; 91 Zim, sex-applicate, cony-graing, sectar mater for leveling relation-ship. 14 Nov. 9005; 439, 9562; 350 Nov. 977-985.
MHTE concy femole: 31, CSCM, Bus-tice frings in life, sectar grain 45 to. 18 Nov. 9005; 439, 6562; 3602 Nov. 925199.
ATTRACTIVE velocy. 18, CMAC, CSCM, Bustimister on, Indition, VIII, pp. 4, 79, 39, for fring-table; and longis-iness. 38 Nov. 9005; 439, 6592; 360, Nov. 930,947.

390481 YOUNG buildry black bely, likes winingAlining seeks native mate for fim. Tal No: 0905 436 6562 Sou No:

923999 (April 1985) (April 1985

ATTRACTIVE Block founds, 33, Block condition, circums, acceleratell, gon nesis, cesting, sinens, sectoral, gen sine male, 39 49 for LTS. Single dad welcome Tal No: 0905 439 9592 Sea No: 315413

No: 915413 VANES SA 92, Island, lating attractive, flora nights indext, resolving, seeder made, 30 35 for life relating, marglet made. Tel No: 0905 438 6582 Sov No: 305797

LOUISE seeks nice make in he Christman stocking, Tal, No: 0905 438 6562 Sou No: 321491 🖁

662 So. No. 327407 B. HAYDA without being compared to be compared to place mights in CSCM, seeks country bring made for including made made and including made made and including made law and particular with the country of the c

919999 (J FB:14LE 44, sectoralitective mate, 54 55 for reskild partner and LTS. Tyl No: 9905 436 6562 Stor No: 917685 (J

906 49 6992 Son No. 97786 Š 908 49 49 years at heart diseases, CSCM, seeks genine geg 40 51 to natio are length 19 No. 906 439 6992 Son No. 94379 Š CARACE 55; lexing, coing, CSCM, lex nights shaler, sames, N.R. seeks caring nate, 51 90 for financialis, maybe may. Taj No. 9995 499 6992 Son No. 979793 Š

319703 Block Itali, green eyes, Bres esenteside, pelas, telebass, seeba sin eer, being male. Tal No: 0905 439 6592 Slow No: 317093

esez stou No: 317093 9479 del fernate, CSCM, Rescrights inton, wingflining, dencing, heldsys, sected tall, amenigent, 31 85 with CSCM for LTR Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Stou No: 313875 3

No. 913975 B YVETTE protty, stylielly, mestern, 49, cert ysing, buddyk, spesity, seetse makt for nights indent. Tall Not. 0905 496 8592 Soa Not 251907 B

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SINGLEfonak, 39, 98,11d similar mak, NS fis friendship maybe mare. Tell No. 0905 436 6562 Sox No. 339139 🖁 QUAVY black former, seeks geomics mate, 23-40 to make me beigh and have fin. Most have CSCH. Tal Not 9905-486 6592 Soa Not 317387

LADY 91%, seeks make for fill and ships before and sections. Car drive will shifty to toward or seams frame. Tel No. 0005-436-6992 Stor No. 324265

SLACK Issuit, 21, 51 Ans, 184, size: P., single mun, thes creating, realing, band, socialising scoke hence, down to centin male; 30.45 Single del will caure. Tel No: 9005 438 9562 Stor No:

998091

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2ms, sinn, CHAC, files recking, welce, being fit, beare riding, helderge, frestre, time, mesteron, CRCM, sector metric foreithink TR, Taj Nor. 0905-499-6992 Sox Nor. 2211-10

acu No: 321140 g SINSLE mun, libra walka, nightainbart, acida fun lexing male with aimta inte-rata. Tel, No: 0005-496-8562-90a No: 320037 g

20037 2 SHBLA 50 Yan, blue eyes, cell losi, 18st, 95, liber mais, mesh cell, contry walts, section mesh, 45-55 who is sim-ear, for losing for friendship, maybe mare. Taj No: 0905 439 6992 Box No: 221455 2

201-55 d ATTRACTIVE diseased, single mans, 36, 91 Sins, blands hair, groon eyes, wobs simbs, bracest, stractive, dash lasted nash, 35-33 for finanshing maybe mase. Tal. Not, 9005–436, 6562, Blow Not. 907800 d

307300 () 30SANNA 41, caning, learing, deviated, legal, aceta mate for friendship, maybe mare. Tal No: 0905 436 6582 Sea No:

men seeking women

Cure Text of Clear. Text in mowered clear to local people. Send : CH4 7207 To : 66125 (14.03 below)
3513 dil make, (26.04, Will Minusle, 39.59 for nights inbut, possible obtains ships. Sendalige. Tell No: 9995 439 6562 Sca No: 954261

6693 Son Nor 39426*

(MALE 55, yang beba, N/S, Iranes, Iray Caning, print, sor los similar famels for the file to great mater. What is fill made, and the same strength of the same strength of the same strength of the same strength, 28 the to since Iranes, man widows Tig. Mov. 2006 498 6992 Son Nor 394019 3]

GENUINE Tated male, 46, sector you miss female sent male, 30 55 for TLC. Tat No. 0905 436 6562 Sou No. 353331 NND for, Stresshire nests, 25, lead some, fit, advent, seeks slim, attactive, independent, educated bely up to 22 for LTS, Tal No. 0905, 498, 9562, Sox No. 24061 27

JEFF 90, tall, 60, sector aimiter bely. Wast Brain, Tel No: 0905 436 6992 Soa No: 351725 ²³

No. 957125 ²²

SINGERE pay bill, good jids, seeble funder to en uny finent sort seed mote. Wittenderten en en en finen sort seed mote. Wittendempters. Binno 2005 439 6992 500. No. 9571387 ²

TREVOR years; 20, bill, regly to bill, down on, filoso welle, moter ont, costing, one ca, filoso weller, moter ont, costing, seeds aroun beautiful and to Tai No. 2005 439 6992 800. No. 9329103

MALC like eyes, alim, seeks eyen minded female, any aperioriensity for fur and good times. Tel No: 0005-486 6562 Sos No: 350013 Z DIVORCED make, Canonian, 54, losts yearger, seeds: apecial bely to fill the empty apec; in the Taj No: 0005 436 6562 Soa No: 340093 3

case a control servine 8 OBNUNE Herbrested male, 58, N.S., retirel, libra speats, meste est, discuss, sectas female, 45-80 for friendship, meder mee. Tal. Not 0905-436-6992 Sos Not 349625 ^{\$21}

Soa No: 949825 ²²³ 94/00 BS SPUL Instrumenton, 32, sector famile, 24'40' for friendship, maybe mare, TAT No: 0905 436 8592 Soa No: 948821

TALL hambeans make, 47, CSCH, Reservante: depahights intent, WUTS attractive, from the calls, young laft, 35-5s, size minipation. Tel Not 0005-436-6562 Soa Not 348611 夏 数

YOUNG lecking 30y oil male, after fee, addre, corprising, lives haved, gran, avaidaing, acide graperous female for firm, maybe made Single name welcome. Tell Not. 0005, 438, 6562. See Not 544803.0

54403 g H Stor, Her cyce, become heighted, and Store on the control of the cycle of

906 49 696 36 Nov. 34527 ATTRACTIVE bill, Back mark, 34 Sinc, sin, 30°s, coins, gennins, CSCR4, scota female, 2555 for fair, istanblins, nector marc. Tell Nov. 995 496 6962 Son Nov. 3470 socta No. 1961, 32°s, coins, gentine with CSCR4 for friend site, success, users. Tell Nov. 9905 496 666 2 Go. Nov. 3997 95

mass decement 3371/35 IMX E 47, Insom India blue carea, Ind., congressing manusing Rear films, weeks, aposts, muscle red, serche and more to posit for filmsleting, marybe mass. Tell 1005 458 6582 Stor No. 2237日 夏泉

XEN blue cycs, alim, 54 fins, aedda gan mirded female, ary agethaticusti ly fia fun and geset times. Liebfield: Ty No: 0905-436-6562 Soa No: 353619 J

#8Y9 dd math, 90 bins, bloc sywn, short leri, N/S, intelligent, likes swinning, folding, walks, doys est, seeks simble learest female. Tal Not 995 436 6592 Sos Not 952575 2 #X

SHY bases, mate, 42 seeks belg, any age, 15, Mc; 9005 436 8592 36a No; 253313 2 1 Ano; 9005 436 8592 36a No; 253313 2 1 Ano; 9005 436 8592 36a No; 9005 436 8592 36a No; 95903 7 3 No; 9005 436 8592 36a No; 95903 7 3

CASTY 37, 31 Zina, Islank Inair, sector female for LTS, maybe for Single mon-welcome. Withoutall, Tel No: 0005 438 6592 Soa No: 352737 3 2

MALESS, NS, socia female, 40 30 for friendship, maybe made, Witerhalt Tal No. 1906 439 6562 Sox No. 3524-7 304 Spt. 40

NO SERVICE AND MANUAL PROPERTY AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE ADMINISTRA SUM attractive make, 47, seeks caring, losing boly for nights out and filterbolips. Steam reply for free long. Tel Not 0905 496 6562 Stor Not 347521 \$2

EASILY 90's male, categories, arota female for fair. Tel No: 0005 436 6962 Soa No: 337153

Stor No: 337153 MAC 45, Hos: cycs, fair Itair, 50 fins, seeks female for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0905 439 6562 Stor No: 310077

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, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31 2008 Page

SPORT thechronicle







United spirit is the key to late Wolves victory

IT WAS one win. But it might yet transform a whole season.

transform a whole season.

So important was this victory, and so overwhelming was the character shown to achieve it, that its effects could reverberate much further along the campaign journey.

After all those mistakes that have led to early goals and late ones to strangle the life out of their progress this season, Mick McCarthy's players somehow produced a performance that stretched every sinew and made Wolves fans proud.

One radio hack said if Premier League places were determined on character

But ultimately, it's Morgan's club. He was allegedly angered to the point of telling frustrated fans that 'changes will be made' after being confronted by them at Blackpool – whether the Wolves owner meant players, tactics or the manager is

challenge.

Nenad Milijas slid into tackles almost as if he was the man he replaced in Karl Henry, while Stephen Ward — in for the suspended Christophe Berra — supplied a

So important was this victory, and so overwhelming was the character shown to achieve it, that its effects could reverberate much achieve it, that its effects could reverberate much further along the campaign journey.

After all those mistakes that have led to early goals and late ones to strangle the life out of their progress this season, Mick McCarthy's players somehow produced a performance that stretched every sinew and made Wolves fans proud.

One radio hack said if Premier League places were determined on character alone, Wolves would be in mid-table.

Try the Champions League because they turned this game around just as they were staring a 10th defeat in 12 games in the face, writes Tim Nash.

The trick now is repeating it. They must use this hard-fought but ultimately well-deserved win to get something at Ewo Park before the derby season kicks in.

For now though, let's asvour one of the most memorable performances of recent years. It was certainly one worth reflecting on, not least to pause for thought on manager mick McCarthy.

Because, for all the flak he's taken and all the pressure he may have been under, who else could have dredged a display out of these players like that?

Just when Wolves are poised to sink to be bottom of the Premier League, they somehow dragged themselves – and postably their manager – back from the ables.

Just when Wolves chairman the could have been all too he most memorable performances of recent players are the man have per leave the most memorable performances of recent players are the produced a real formance of the post and being out-just the work of the car with the number plate were staring in the face, writes Tim Nash.

For now though, let's asyour one of the most memorable performances of recent players in the face, who else could have dredged a display out of these players like that was the sort of solidarity beautiful to the post and being out-just the was never been all too here are with the number plate where the most memorable performances of recent players a

Stephen Hunt in celebration mode as his right-footed volley makes it 2-2



leads up - second-half action from Wolves' win

Made two good saves to deny Bent and to tip over from Cattermole to justify his return from a year-long absence. There was the odd sign of rustiness which is to be expected, but he showed a cool head. 7/10

Had one shot blocked and fired inches over Zubar was in the thick of things from the word go and he got through some ugly defend-ing. 8/10

Richard Stearman

Another mixed bag. Denied what initially appeared to be a legitimate goal, he was at fault for Sun-derland's first and was also caught flat-footed when

Bent fired near the end. Never hid or gave up. 6/10

Man marking – how the players rated

Bent Irred near the end.
Never hid or gave up. 6/10
George Elokobi
Won the header for
Hunt's equaliser but did so
much more. Booked for
deliberate handball when
Richardson hit the post, he
was out-jumped in the
build-up to Bent's goal and
by Weibeck for Sunderland's second. 7/10
Stephen Ward
Provided several topquality crosses in the first
half to keep Zenden on the
back foot. He linked up well
with Jarvis then Hunt as
Wolves continued to probe
Sunderland. McCarthy
could have a dilemma now—
him or Elokobi at left-back?
7/10

Michael Mancienne

Went quietly about his business, picking the pockets of Sunderland's midfielders when they broke forward while giving it simple when he had it to start attacks before he was sacrificed just after half-

Kevin Foley

Net only did he banish the memory of last week, he left fans purring with the char-acter and quality of his per-formance as he led by example. Scored his third goal in seven in a move he started himself. 9/10

David Jones

Tried to get Wolves moving by switching the play and trying to get

forward. Was held back by

Sunderland's robust central midfield. Sacrificed just after the hour. 6/10 **Nenad Miliias** Nenad Milijas
One sweeping, defencesplitting pass into the path
of Jarvis left Molineux satisfied, but he also showed
that he is now up to speed
with the ugly side of the
game, launching into
tackles and tracking back.
8/10

Matt Jarvis

Matt Jarvis
What a performance. Set
up the first two goals and
could have had one himself
as he terrorised Onuoha
then Bardsley in another
storming display of pace
and excellent crossing.
9/10

Kevin Doyle

Back to his best. Showed tenacity, strength, bravery and quality to hold the ball and set up the winner. Work-rate not matched by his finishing. 9/10

Substitutes

Substitutes
Sylvan Ebanks-Blake
(for Mancienne, 50 mins)
When you're in a pickle
and you've got a chance to
score, Ebanks-Blake is your
man. Brilliant finish for the
winner after working his
socks off. 7/10

Stephen Hunt (for Jones, 63 mins) Insisted afterwards he had no problem being dropped. 7/10

Subs not used: Van Damme, Fletcher, Bent, Davis, Hahnemann (gk).

Gordon; Onuoha, Mensah, Ferdinand, Bardel, Zenden (C. rerdinand, Bardsley; Zenden (Gyan 56), Hender-son (Malbranque 56), Cat-termole, Richardson; Bent, Welbeck.

Subs not used: Da Silva, Angeleri, Riveros, Elmo-hamady, Mignolet (gk).

Mike Jones (Chester)

Gave a lot against Wolves – some of it unfairly – and also missed Cattermole dragging down Millijas in the

But he recovered his

thechronicle







Everton goalkeeper Tim Howard dives to his left but is unable to keep out Chris Brunt's superb free-kick. Right, the winger celebrates his goal

Chris Brunt, centre, is mobbed after scoring the second



SPORT



Albion are back to ruthless best

SO, what was everyone worried about?

In one ruthless display Albion regained momentum, re-wrote their record books and calmed nerves that were just beginning to tingle among some supporters.

It was tempting to declare 'the Baggies are back' after a collection of stuming goals earned them a well-deserved success from a high-tempo clash with the Toffees.

But in truth the 'real Albion' never really went away, despite a difficult month that before Saturday had yielded just one pour town a steady slide down the Premier League. While scores had been a concern, there had been little hard evidence in the previous five matches to suggest anything was badly wrong, writes Steve Madeley.

They were, however, in desperate need of a result as they arrived on Merseyside. And they delivered in style with the Cub's included in the promit best away result in the Premier League. It wasn't the high-octane, washbuckling Baggies that shocked Arsenal at the Emirates Statium, but the sight of Roberto in Matteo's rediscovering their letal touch in the final third was a welcome sight for long spells, especially in a topsy-turvy first half.

The Baggies gave the ball away a little; their hosts gave it away a lot.

Yet, while the outcome might not have been vintage entertainment, the sides did



Paul Scharner wheels away in celebration after heading home his first goal for the Baggies



Sport

UNITED SPIRIT IS THE KEY TO LATE **WOLVES WIN**

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RUTHLESS BAGGIES BACK TO THEIR BEST

Page 51

WOLVES AND ALBION MATCH PICTURES

Pages 50 and 51

BROTHERS SEAL DEAL FOR YELTZ

MILLIONAIRE brothers have secured the long-term future of Halesowen Town Football Club after a deal to buy the Black Country side was completed.

Businessmen Graham and Godfrey Ingram have been given backing to formally take the helm of the non-league side.

It was believed the club was still in talks with the Football Association about ratifying the deal. But it has emerged that the sale has been completed and the centrage is given to hand earlied to the neither the neither than the nei completed and the contracts signed to hand control to the pair.

Administrator Marsh-

The home supporters who had braved the cold

Nisbett gives boss Thorpe his first win

HAT-TRICK hero Justin Nisbett enjoyed a HATTRICK hero Justin Nisbett enjoyed a dream debut as the Yeltz ended their scoring drought in spectacular fashion.

Tony Thorpe's side had netted just once in their previous eight games but turned on the style against Brackley to move clear of the relegation zone.

Nisbett, captured on the style against Brackley to move clear of the relegation zone.

Nisbett, captured on the style against Brackley 3 Bra

each of his three goals provided by strike partner Lee Osborne. In front of just 122 supporters, the lowest attendance of the season at the drove, Thorpe handed debuts to fellow never using Gareth Davies, Adam Robinson and Lee Chilton.

Flank

Just 10 minutes in they took the lead when good work from Osborne down the left flank resulted in a low ball across goal, which Nisbett smashed into the roof of the net.

Brackley hit back six minutes later when a dwipped Tom Winters cross past helpless home keeper Nick Bussey.

Bussey, who rejoined the Yeltz from Redditch United, was called in a conson after to turn a Winters shot around the post.

Halesowen restored the roof of the net.

Halesowen restored the Yeltz from Redditch United, was called in a conson after to turn a Chilton, who stormed Winters shot around the post.

Halesowen restored the roof of the net can only the defence and drove past Dorrill.

The prosequent of the post of the post of the net can only the post of the post of the post.

Halesowen restored the roof of the net can only the post of the p

Expense

Nicky's on the road to marathon

ARUNNER from the Blac Country is getting ready for her ultimate challenge – com th the Football Associadid hat the sale has been
introl to the pair.

Administrator Marshman Price said on
Tuesday that there were
some outstanding issues
with creditors but the
deal was done.
Spokesman Gary Petti
said: "The membership of
the club has been has
been transferred to
Graham and Godfrey
Ingram."

Supporters group, The
Yeltz Trust, say relations
between the new owners
and the fams association
have still not improved.
Trust chairman Gary
Willetts has revealed the
owners have not had
face-to-face talks with
the group for weeks.
"There is just nothing
coming out of the club at
the moment," he said.
The trust was due to
hold a meeting at Halesowen Cricket Club, off
Grange Road, last night
(December 1).

The Ingram brothers
bid brought to an end the
controversial reign of
former owner Morell
Maison, with the club
reportedly having racked
up £250,000 of debt.

Expense
Marshman Price

Stourbridge Road, Lye,



Marine looks for added Sheen in his ring career

HALESOWEN'S boxing Royal Marine Keith Sheen is treating his rematch with Andrew Patterson next month as the first stop on the

rad to personal glory.

Sheen and Patterson slugged it out in a thrilling six-rounder in July with referee Terry O'Connor unable to separate the two at the final bell, scoring the contest a 57-57 draw.

They will now do it all again on the same turf, Birmingham's Holiday Inn, on December 20.

They will now do it all Birmingham's Holiday Inr It will be Sheen's first, fight since the initial meeting after seeing two houts fall by the wayside. The 31-year-old had to pull out of a British Masters title fight against Sean McKervey injury, before again having to rule himself out of a shot at rising welterweight star James Flinn earlier this month. Sheen has been paired with Flinn three times already without success and twice with Patterson before the pair eventually got it on, leaving the Black Country boxer keen to settle the scores once and for all.

Talent

He said: "I would love finally get hold of Flinn. I have got nothing against him, but he's a good talent and I just want to test myself.

"It's the same with Pat-

"It's the same with Patterson, I just want to get that blemish of a draw against him off my record," added Sheen.
"I have got nothing against him, either. He's a really nice lad and always produces a good scrap, which is the buzz I get out of boxing."

SANDWELL Lions Cycle Speedway Club's suc-cessful Premier League application could not have come at a better time for the long estab-lished club.

Lions are all ready

to roar

time for the long established club.

It provides a much meed platform to help reestablish the Lions as one of cycle speedway's most progressive outfits.

It certainly provides a welcome relief after a three-year uphill battle against a succession of off-track problems.

Club secretary Brian Buck said: 'First, Sandwell Council's plans to redevelop Tividals Sportsground where the club has been based for the last 41 years, indicated that it was likely that a site for an alternative base would need to be located.

"Uncertainty followed."

"Uncertainty followed when the council sus-pended these plans.





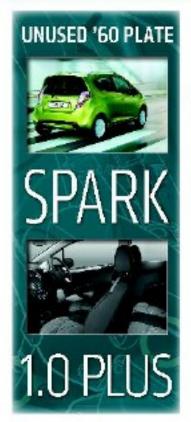






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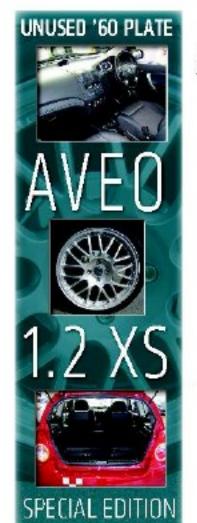
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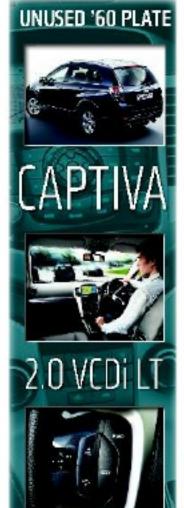
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